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VOL. VI NO. 104

Hijacked plane

Pakistan supports any Syrian action

By Shahid Orakzai
Arab News Correspondent

RAWALPINDI, March 9 — A government spokesman Monday said Pakistan will have no objection to any Syrian "appropriate measures, including a commando action," to release more than a hundred people aboard a hijacked PIA Boeing 720 which landed at Damascus in the early hours Monday.

The aircraft hijacked by three armed men last Monday flew out of Kabul late Sunday night to spite of Pakistan government's request to Afghan authorities to prevent the takeoff even by shooting the tires.

The spokesman said that the hijackers, who initially carried pistols, were able to "build up an armoury" during the week-long stay at the Afghan capital. He disclosed that a Syrian military official, General Khouri who was held at machine gun-point as he went up to talk with hijackers at Damascus was told that they carried two time bombs, grenades, machine guns and enough ammunition.

The spokesman was confident that the Syrian authorities would "fulfil their responsibilities" and tactfully handle the situation adding that his government had no plans to send a negotiating team to the Syrian capital. Recalling the difficulties faced by Pakistani officials in seeking release of the passengers at Kabul, he said the Syrian response was "very positive" and "things would be much better at Damascus," he hoped.

Pakistani chargé d'affairs at Damascus had already picked up contact with the hijackers through wireless to discuss their demands pertaining to release of some 42 prisoners, including some of their relatives.

Pakistan government Sunday offered to release about 15 of the total 92 prisoners listed by the hijackers who demanded that the number be raised to 42. For the safety of the passengers the government agreed to review more cases of such prisoners who had minor criminal charges against them that permitted a lenient view.

The spokesman said that government would not accept the release of hostages in batches, as suggested by Afghan authorities, and would resist all attempts to prolong the agony of the passengers.

At a cabinet meeting President Zia condemned the "political blackmail and reiterated his government's resolve not to submit to such pressures. He also had phone talks with a number of heads of friendly countries. The president was also delivered a message

Kuwait opens new parliament

KUWAIT, March 9 (AP) — Kuwait's ruler Sheikh Jaber al Ahmed al Sabah opened the country's first parliament in five years Monday by rejecting foreign interventions in the Gulf and repeating Kuwait's insistence on Israel's complete withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem.

He also appealed for close cooperation between the executive and legislative bodies of the government to "preserve the country's independence and stability."

"The past few years have been characterized by challenges and accomplishments both on the outside and the domestic fronts," Sheikh Jaber told the newly-elected assembly in his speech to parliament.

"During these years, the world has witnessed multi-party conflicts in which attitudes and interests interacted with repercussions extending to the Arab world, particularly the Gulf region," he added.

He said that Kuwait played "a distinguished role on the international arena over the past few years... and repeatedly feared foreign interventions in the Gulf affairs."

"We continue to insist on Israel's complete withdrawal from all occupied Arab lands, including Jerusalem, and recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the setting up of their own independent state on their homeland under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization," he said.

Sheikh Jaber pledged that Kuwait would continue to shoulder its Arab, Gulf and world responsibilities.

During the opening session, former Planning Minister Muhammad Youssef Adasani was elected speaker and Ahmed Abdel-Aziz Al-Sadoon deputy speaker.

Sadat to visit U.S.

CAIRO, March 9 (AFP) — Egyptian President Anwar Sadat is to visit Washington toward the end of the year, State Minister Mansour Hassan told the daily newspaper *Al Ahram* Monday. Sadat has intended visiting the United States shortly after the January inauguration of President Ronald Reagan, but then postponed his trip until the summer. Last October, Sadat suggested a U.S.-Egyptian-Israeli summit be held in Washington this spring on the Palestinian autonomy negotiations.

But the Egyptian president said he would not take part in any new negotiations before the Israeli general elections scheduled for June.

of Soviet government situation.

Meanwhile, a spokesman said the Murtaza Bhutto, eldest son of executed Premier Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who was reported backing the hijackers had boarded the plane as it left for Damascus. Bhutto's widow, Nusrat, who heads Pakistan Peoples Party of her late husband had been arrested Sunday apparently to pressure the hijackers to surrender.

Some Pukhtoo tribesmen whose relatives were being held as hostage were getting restive and had demanded that the relatives of the hijackers be handed over to them until the plane is returned.

Nonaligned start talks on Gulf war

GENEVA, March 9 (R) — Foreign ministers of India, Cuba, Zambia and a Palestinian official assembled here Monday for the first meeting of a "goodwill committee" set up by the nonaligned movement to try to resolve the Iran-Iraq war.

The three ministers and Farouk Kaddoumi, head of the Palestine Liberation Organization's (PLO) political department, were due to start their exploratory talks the Cuban mission later Monday. Indian Foreign Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao arrived Monday morning to join his colleagues Isidoro Malmierca of Cuba and Lameck Goma of Zambia.

The four-man panel was set up by nonaligned foreign ministers at a meeting in New Delhi last month. The organization of the Islamic conference and United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim have also launched separate initiatives to end the Gulf war, so far without success.

Turkish Foreign Minister Ilter Turkmen, who is currently on a visit to Bangladesh, said Sunday that no miracles should be expected of an Islamic mission's efforts to end the Gulf war but he rejected any suggestions that the peace attempt had failed.

Turkmen told reporters after arriving in Dacca "it will be wrong to expect miracles in a complicated situation like this (the Iran-Iraq conflict)." The peace mission's members include Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ulusu and Bangladesh President Ziaur Rahaman.

Ceasefire proposals made public last Thursday by the mission received a cool response from Iran and Iraq. But commenting on the apparent rejection by both sides, Turkmen said: "We have to wait until we receive official communication from Tehran and Baghdad. I don't think at all that the mission has failed," he added.

Latest strikes cripple U.K.

LONDON, March 9 (AP) — A 24-hour strike by thousands of British civil servants got under way early Monday, disrupting air services, tourist attractions, government offices and courts throughout the country. A nationwide pay dispute by most of the 530,000 civil servants brought airports to a virtual standstill as air traffic controllers joined the walkout.

All flight departures were canceled except for services at a few smaller airports managed by local authorities.

At Heathrow, the country's largest airport, terminals normally seething with activity were practically deserted, with most passengers having either flown Sunday instead or waiting for Tuesday. The nine unions involved in the dispute are seeking a pay rise of 15 per cent, from janitors earning \$1.10 a week to permanent secretaries in Whitehall ministries on \$72,600 a year.

The government, which recently gave in to the demands of miners and water workers, has offered 7 per cent, thinking that the civil servants' case lacks public support.

Among the tourist sights that were to close for the day were the Tower of London and numerous state museums and art galleries. Staff at Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle were exempted from the strike.

But workers at unemployment and tax offices, government-run driving schools and weather centers were all affected. And unions also predicted that most crown and court courts would stay shut after the weekend break.

Although the 90 per cent support for the strike predicted by the unions was an optimistic forecast, according to government sources, widespread dislocation of the general running of the country was inevitable. The stoppage will be followed by selective strikes, including one aimed at Britain's defense network.

Union leaders have declined to give precise details of their plan, but reports said almost 100 staff would go on strike at the government's communications headquarters on Cheltenham, west of London, and at a secret tracking station in Cornwall county.

Pakistan government reshuffled

ISLAMABAD, March 9 (AFP) — Pakistani President Muhammad Zia Ul-Haq Monday reshuffled his cabinet.

Eight members of the outgoing cabinet and a minister of state retained their posts in the new expanded 23-member cabinet.

President Zia, facing opposition criticism of his four-year-old rule, replaced some military ministers by technocrats, bureaucrats and former politicians.

But he retained the ministers for foreign affairs: Agha Shahi, defense: Ali Ahmed Talpur, finance: Ghulam Ishaq Khan, public works: Air Marshal Imamul Haq Khan, interior: Mahmood Haroon, education: Muhammad Ali Hoti, food: Rear Admiral Fazil Janjua and communications: Mihudin Baluch.

The reshuffle followed extensive consultations with the political parties Gen. Zia banned in October 1979 after indefinitely postponing elections.



Planning Minister Hisham Nazer

Nazer outlines economic plans

RIYADH, March 9 (SPA) — A round-table seminar attended by international businessmen Monday resumed meetings at King Faisal Conference Hall. The three-day seminar, opened Sunday by Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal, was addressed Monday by Planning Minister Sheikh Hisham Nazer.

The minister highlighted targets of the previous two development plans and the current five-year development scheme. He stressed that the objectives of the plans were being carried within the framework of Islamic system. He said development was not restricted to the public sector but extended to the private sector as well.

The former second development plan achieved the long-cherished targets of roads, seaports and airports, while the current development plan emphasized the productive bases in the country, the minister said.

"The national income has reached 15 per cent in the previous plan and that it is expected to drop down to 6 per cent in the present plan, but it will resume growth again by building a productive potential," he added.

The symposium was addressed later on by Dr. Abdul-Rahman Al-Sheikh, the minister of agriculture and water who spoke about the role of the agricultural sector in the overall economic development of Saudi Arabia.

Dr. Abdul-Rahman referred to the economic and political strategies applied for the integration of the agricultural sector.

He pointed out to the obstacles facing the development of this sector and the government procedures to cope with these difficulties.

He highlighted the agricultural strategies adopted to achieve food security of the Kingdom.

Arrives in Washington

Genscher to urge Reagan on N-talks

WASHINGTON, March 9 (AP) — West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, opening high-level talks with U.S. officials, is expected to make a strong appeal for the resumption of nuclear arms negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union.

West Germany is the key military ally of the United States, and American officials said before Genscher's arrival Sunday night that they expected defense issues would dominate his talks here. Of prime concern to the West German government is the Reagan administration's attitude toward NATO's December 1979 decision to modernize its medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

The Soviets are reported to have 200 SS20 missiles targeted at Western Europe, while the U.S. deployment in Europe of 108 Pershing II and 464 ground-launched cruise missiles is not scheduled to begin until 1983.

Schmidt has said he did not believe the Soviet proposals for missiles freeze go far enough.

But in a recent broadcast interview, he had said he believed the deployment of American warheads could still be avoided.

Genscher's visit also is taking place against a background of Saturday's announcement by the West German defense ministry that the Bonn government intends to cancel or postpone several major defense projects. The austerity measures reflect the country's new economic problems, and Genscher is expected to offer assurances that they are not a sign of a weakened West German commitment to the NATO alliance.

Israel hits F-15 sale to Saudi Arabia

TEL AVIV, March 9 (R) — The Israeli cabinet Monday denounced the U.S. decision to supply weapons to Saudi Arabia as a danger to peace in the Middle East.

(see related story, page 2)

In a communiqué after a meeting, the cabinet charged that Saudi Arabia was "most extreme." It said that Saudi Arabia had called in the past for a jihad to liberate Jerusalem and occupied Arab territories from Israel.

The Reagan government has announced its intention to sell Sidewinder missiles and extra fuel tanks for U.S.-supplied F-15 warplanes. The Israelis say the proposed sale contradicts promises of the Carter administration not to supply offensive weapons for the F-15s.

As the cabinet met, two of Israel's own F-15s slowly made low level circles over Begin's office. The government statement said "the cabinet endorses the opposition which the foreign minister expressed to the American administration regarding the supply of offensive weapons to Saudi Arabia. These weapons would endanger the security of Israel."

Gulf states study plan

MUSCAT, March 9 (Agencies) — Saudi Arabia and five other Gulf states met in Muscat Monday to finalize a plan to bring their countries closer and safeguard stability in the area. The six Arab countries, aim to set up a community similar to the European Common Market.

During a two-day meeting here, foreign ministers from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Qatar, Oman and Bahrain are due to initial the constitution of a Gulf Cooperation Council and arrange the first summit under the new system.

The council, consisting of a committee of heads of state and other ministers, will form a framework for coordinating policies and will meet regularly. The summit will possibly be in Riyadh in two months time, officials said. The six states decided to boost cooperation between them had been limited because each jealously guarded its right to make independent decisions.

They said the council would start gradually trying to harmonize activities in areas such as the economy, education and health. One important task for the council in its first months could be to solve outstanding problems between members unsettled border disputes, making it easier for the six to cooperate in other fields.

The council could later play a major role in coordinating oil policies of the member states, which range from Saudi Arabia producing 10 million barrels of oil a day to Bahrain, which produces 50,000. According

to a draft constitution published last month, the Council of Heads of State will meet twice a year and the council of ministers every two months. A permanent secretariat will be based in Riyadh.

Although the six countries have a generally conservative, traditional Arab culture in common, Gulf government sources said cooperation between them had been limited because each jealously guarded its right to make independent decisions.

The 386-kilometer road is expected to total more than SR400 million, and will take 24 months to complete. The expressway will have three lanes in each direction with a 20-meter wide median strip.

The road will also have barriers to prevent stray animals from endangering traffic movement. According to officials, the road will reduce travel time and ease congestion of the existing highway. It will pass via Abu Huriya on the Gulf coast and also the ring

386-km expressway

Mansouri to sign contracts

By a Staff Writer

RIYADH, March 9 — Communications Minister Sheikh Hussein Mansouri Tuesday will sign contracts for the construction of the Riyadh-Dammam expressway. The contract has been issued in small parcels to expedite construction.

The 386-kilometer road is expected to shave off nearly 100 kilometers — one hour traveling time — between the capital and Dammam which now takes five hours along a railroad of 556 kilometers. Studies are also underway to link the Western and Central Regions and Jubail with Dammam by rail. Jubail is the site of the new petrochemical industries and a new city which eventually will accommodate 300,000 people.

U.S. sends fourth murderer to electric chair in 20 years

Michigan City, Indiana, March 9 (AP) — Steven T. Judy, saying "I don't hold no grudges," walked quietly to the electric chair early Monday and was executed for murdering a young mother and her three small children, department of corrections spokesman Tom Hanlon said. He said the 24-year-old murderer's last words were: "I don't hold no grudges. This is my doing, sorry it happened."

Hanlon said that just after midnight, Judy, who had resisted efforts to avert his execution, was escorted from a holding cell at the Indiana State Prison a short distance to the freshly varnished black oak electric chair and was strapped in. "He was very calm, and walked to the chair very quietly," Hanlon said. "He walked to the chair with no help."

He said Judy was first given an electrical charge of 2,300 volts for 10 seconds, then a second charge of 500 volts for 20 seconds.

Under state law, warden Jack Duckworth was assigned to pull the switch that sent the lethal current through his body. Judy, who

was convicted of raping and strangling Terry Chasteen and drowning her three small children in April 1979, became the fourth person executed in this country since the U.S. Supreme Court revived the death penalty in 1976, and the first executed in Indiana in 20 years. The body was released to the county coroner.

Earlier, the blonde-haired, blue-eyed Judy had bid a tearful farewell to his foster family and then ate a last meal of prime ribs and lobster tails in the holding cell, separated by only a curtain from the electric chair. A prison barber shaved part of Judy's head and leg to make a clear connection for the electrodes, which were soaked in salt brine to maximize conductivity. Six prison officials were in charge of strapping the blindfolded Judy into the electric chair. Eight other prison officials also were present. Judy could have had 10 friends witness the execution, but chose only his foster father and attorney.

A special telephone line was set up bet-

ween the prison and Governor Robert D. Orr in Indianapolis in case Judy — who chose not to fight his death sentence through the courts — changed his mind. A spokesman said the governor had not decided what he would do in that case. "Judy is not going to change his mind," his foster father Robert Carr, of Indianapolis, said after he, his wife and their four children visited him along with attorney Steven L. Harris. "He broke down three or four times, especially when we left, but I tried everything I know to talk him out of it," Carr said. "He really had a hard time saying goodbye to my kids," Mrs. Carr said

Kennedy forces to oppose arms sale In league with U.S. Jews

NEW YORK, March 9 (Agencies) — Democratic Sen. Edward M. Kennedy told Jewish leaders Sunday that he and other senators will attempt to block President Ronald Reagan's plan to sell military equipment to Saudi Arabia.

On the proposed arms sale, Kennedy said in a speech before the American Jewish Conference that, "I oppose the administration's decision last Friday to sell advanced military equipment — with advanced offensive capability — to a government that has sworn to destroy the state of Israel."

The Republican Reagan administration proposes to sell the Kingdom auxiliary fuel tanks and advanced models of the Sidewinder air-to-air missiles for 62 F-15 fighters already on order from the United States. The administration said the plan was part of a larger program to expand military cooperation with Middle East nations.

A State Department press statement regarding the proposed sale said, "We have consulted closely with Congress during the past week regarding the serious deterioration in security conditions in the Middle East/Arabian Gulf region and the growing threat to our friends there from Soviet and other pressures. We have benefited from the Congressional views expressed and plan to continue to work closely with Congress on steps to protect our interests in that vital region."

The statement further explained that despite assurances the previous administra-

tion of ex-president Jimmy Carter to Congress that he wouldn't sell the accessories, the present administration is viewing dramatic changes of circumstances in the region. "The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the turmoil of the Iranian revolution, the Iran-Iraq war and the Soviet presence in South Yemen and Ethiopia underscore the instability in the region and the dangers of Soviet penetration and exploitation," the State Department explained.

The State Department report further said that the proposals for military sales are a sign of U.S. determination that the United States will move decisively and quickly to protect its interests and those of its friends and allies.

However, Israel also is slated to receive \$600 million in additional military credits over the next two years as part of the program to thwart what the administration says is a "growing threat" from the Soviet Union. Yet, Israel has broached new arms requests to the Pentagon in the aftermath of the announced sale of advanced equipment to Saudi Arabia.

In statements showing the Kingdom's desire to bolster their military forces, Crown Prince Fahd told reporters from the West German magazine *Der Spiegel* that Saudi Arabia is going ahead with its plans to build a strong and modern army able to defend its vast territory.

He said that Saudi Arabia "is free to pur-

Saudi Arabians contribute SR50m to Afghan fighters

RIYADH, March 9 (SPA) — The people of the Kingdom have donated SR 50 million to the freedom fighters in Afghanistan. The money was transferred Monday after a meeting of the charitable society set up the government for receiving donations to the Afghan Mujahideen under Prince Salman, governor of Riyadh.

The society was ordered by King Khaled shortly after the Soviet invasion and occupation of the country and has been appealing for private donations to aid the 1,500,000 refugees in Pakistan and the fighters against the Soviet invasion.

The check was given to Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Conference Habib Chatti to be forwarded to the Afghan leadership. The decision to help the Afghans was taken during a meeting of Islamic foreign ministers in Islamabad last year.

Prince Salman issued an appeal to the people to give generously and the first check was paid to Chatti by Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal in Islamabad during the conference. It amounted to SR 80 million which

Prince Saud described as a symbol of the Saudi people's solidarity with the Afghan people in their hour of need.

A fatwa, or religious ruling, by Sheikh Abdul Aziz ibn Baz, general president of the Board of Religious Guidance, followed King Khaled's appeal for assistance to the Afghan freedom fighters. The ruling permitted payment of Zakat, the 2½ per cent alms tax on every Muslim's wealth, to Afghanistan Muslim fighters. The fatwa also cleared the way for payment of Zakat before the due time, during Ramadan.

Prayer Times					
Tuesday	Mecca	Medina	Riyadh	Dammam	Buraidah
Fajr (Dawn)	5.09	5.11	4.42	4.30	4.54
Ishraq (Sunrise)	6.34	6.36	6.07	5.55	6.19
Dhuhr (Noon)	12.31	12.32	12.03	11.50	12.14
Asr (Evening)	3.55	3.56	3.27	3.14	3.38
Maghreb (Sunset)	6.29	6.29	6.01	5.47	6.11
Isha (Night)	7.59	7.59	7.31	7.17	7.41
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arab news Local

By 100 per cent Wheat output increases

RIYADH, March 9 (SPA) — Wheat production in the Kingdom increased by over 100 per cent last year, according to the Agriculture Minister Dr. Abdul Rahman Al Sheikh. It amounted to 120,000 tons compared with just 52,000 the previous year and a mere 18,000 tons the year before.

Dr. Sheikh attributed the dramatic increase to generous government aid to the farmers, subsidies on farm equipment which amount to 50 per cent of the cost and the ministry's program to cultivate more land by providing water, seeds and other assistance. "In this way we have encouraged more people to attend to farming and increased the output of foodstuffs," he said.

Dr. Sheikh said that the capital will soon begin to receive huge quantities of water from the Wasei wells and the desalination plants which will process water pumped all the way from the Gulf, in the Eastern Region. In ten months, experimental pumping will commence, he said, and eventually supply 63,000 cubic meters of water a day in addition to the present amount. The desalination plant is already 50 per cent complete, he added, and should be ready to pump water in 16 to 18 months.

Earlier, *Arab News* reported that the Eastern Province branch of the Agriculture Development Bank granted 1,126 loans that totaled SR138 million during the past nine months. Abdul Aziz Abdullah Al-Uwaifer, the agricultural bank's Hofuf branch director, said the Hofuf branch alone has issued 760 loans that totaled SR54 million during the period. The loans were granted to 710 farmers, 31 beduins, nine poultry farm owners, four leases for agricultural machinery, three fishermen and a nursery farm project.



Dr. Abdul Rahman Al Sheikh
The branch also granted financial assistance to farmers and poultry farm owners that amounted to SR16 million. About SR12 million was allocated for poultry farmers, issued monthly in the form of fodder. The bank's loans during the nine months covered 5,780 dunums of utilized land and 17,000 of unutilized land.

In addition, Sami Labban, manager of the agriculture assistance program of the Arabian-American Oil Company (ARAMCO) said that farmers in the Kingdom may be producing enough crops within the next five years to enable Saudi Arabia to be self-sufficient in fresh vegetables year-round. He said that with continued development of a network of communications, marketing and cold storage facilities and of controlled environment farming in greenhouses, Saudi Arabia could replace imports of fresh vegetables during non-growing seasons by the mid-1980s.



Crown Prince Fahd

chase arms from any of its friends, either the Germans, the Americans, the French, the Swedish, the British or from any European country willing to sell what we want." The crown prince also stressed that Gulf Arab

countries are capable of protecting their security and maintaining stability in the region. Fahd said Saudi Arabia considers purchasing arms from West Germany and other friendly countries as an important matter.

For Saudi Telephone payroll Computer system turned on

HAIL, March 9 — Saudi Telephone's Hail District Manager Eid Al Husseini hosted an inaugural dinner for the first completely computerized personnel and payroll system used in the Kingdom, the Ministry of Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones reported Monday. The dinner was attended by VIPs from Hail and other Saudi Telephone districts.

According to a PTT press statement, the new computerized payroll/personnel system, which eventually will be adopted by all Saudi Telephone districts, will create a uniform management information base on each Saudi Telephone employee. This will allow the phone company managers to more efficiently allocate manpower resources, the report added. As a result, better service will be provided for subscribers, the statement said.

Hail District has been working over the past year to install the system. An employee master file was created, consisting of an individual record for each employee, containing all payroll and personnel data. This was processed through a computer program specifically designed for the Kingdom. At the same time, employees were trained in the field on the techniques to be used for recording all information, and new report forms were developed. For many months, the sophisticated computer system was run in parallel with the old manual approach, to ensure that any problem area was eliminated before the inauguration of the modern computer system, the ministry reported.

The benefits that the Kingdom will enjoy from the new system are numerous. At a glance, Hail District managers can get information on employee service records, payroll amounts, time reports and records of overtime and absences. The new system also will provide, automatically, a full account of total manpower within the district, manpower movements by district and lists of employees by contract type. In addition, all information can be accurately. The old manual operations performed by each of Saudi Telephone's 16 districts can be consolidated into one automatic operation, providing uniform processing. Employees will be given a full accounting of their earnings, deductions, etc. For the first time, a comprehensive financial and manpower-related information base is available to managers, giving them effective control of their operation, the report said.

COMMENT

By Abdul Rahman Saad Al-Samari
Al-Jazirah

If we carefully pursue reports on car accidents, especially on the highways, we would notice that many accidents take place as a result of stray camels and donkeys. Such animals roam about the highways day and night and, to be specific, the donkey does not feel comfortable unless it stands still on the asphalted road. It never thinks about its fate and the fate of drivers, and consequently continues to pose a danger to human life.

In regard to camels, I will only say that their owners keep a watch on them and know where they are going. It may not be an exaggeration to say that they care for the camels more than their own children, for it fetches a fantastic price and helps them cover at least part of the cost of a de luxe villa.

The camel, as we know, is unlike the donkey which normally has no one to care for it. The matter, therefore, necessitates upon us to think seriously whether we should let loose the camel and make it a direct cause for the loss of human lives. So often have we heard that a few persons and, sometimes, the whole family, have died on the road as a result of their car crashing into this animal. What is still more strange is the fact that the owners of such camels go to the nearest police station to claim the cost of their beast. They show their concern for the dead animal's cost, but forget those people who lost their lives.

The state, on its part, has repaired and widened the highways for the comfort and safety of the people, but stray camels and donkeys continue to pose a problem that remains unabated.

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China construction firm envisions major contracts

By Farouk Lamoun

JEDDAH, March 9 — The Ret-Ser Engineering Company of the Republic of China expects to win road building contracts worth more than SR1,500 million this year, according to its President H.C. Yen who is making one of his periodic visits to the Kingdom.

Yen said roads will be built in the Southern Region where his company is already engaged in one of the most arduous engineering tasks in the world — the shaar Descent Road in Asir. The road descends from 2,000 to 800 meters through a 14 kilometer gradient, making it one of the most challenging road-building jobs anywhere.

Before starting work the company had to recruit professional mountain climbers from Kuwallien Province in south Taiwan in order to do the preparatory work and pave the way for the engineers.



H.C. Yen

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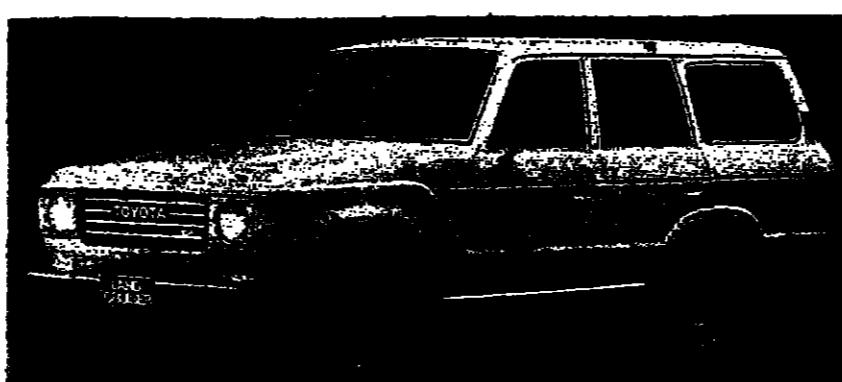
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ABDUL LATIF JAMEEL CO., LTD.

Akihito expresses thanks

Japan Bureau



Prince Akihito

TOKYO, March 9 — Japan's Crown Prince Akihito said Monday he was deeply impressed by the dedication and keen interest in the progress and welfare of the country and its people by the leadership of the King.

In remarks made upon his return to Japan after visiting Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Singapore, the crown prince expressed deep appreciation for Japan being regarded favorably by the Kingdom. He also said that he hopes his visit will further deepen the relations between Japan and the countries he toured.

The crown prince's visit was the first by Japanese royalty to the Kingdom. In 1971 King Faisal ibn Abdul Aziz visited Japan and that visit prompted Japan's interest in the Kingdom. It was in the 1960s that Japan's Chiyoda Chemical Engineering company presented the masterplan for the utilization of natural gas, which was accepted by the Kingdom.

BRIEFS

Youth Welfare president returns
RIYADH, March 9 (SPA) — Prince Faisal ibn Fahd, president of the Youth Welfare Organization, returned here from Paris Sunday evening where he opened last Tuesday the First Joint Gulf Cultural Week on behalf of Gulf youth and sports ministers. Prince Faisal was met at the airport by Riyadh Governor Prince Salman; Prince Fahd ibn Sultan ibn Abdul Aziz, labor undersecretary for social welfare; and a number of officials from the Youth Welfare Organization.

Tunisia beats Kingdom
RIYADH, March 9 (SPA) — The Tunisian team beat the Saudi team 2-1 Sunday in the cordial soccer match played at the Youth Welfare Stadium here. Saudi Jassim scored Saudi Arabia's only goal at the 21st minute of the first half-time. The two Tunisian goals came during the second half-time. Saudi Arabia beat Oman 4-0 last Monday. It also beat Morocco 1-0 on Thursday. The matches are elimination contests for the world cup finals scheduled in Riyadh on March 18.

Rains fall
RIYADH, March 9 (SPA) — Heavy rain fell on most parts of Saudi Arabia during the past few days. It rained over Taif and Bani Malek, Bani Saad, Thamala and Hayyan which had not been irrigated for the past 13 years. It also rained heavily on Al-Holwa at Hawdat Bani Tamim last Thursday. Rainfall Saudi Arabia is seen as a sign of blessing from the sky. When it does not rain for sometime, the King orders Istisqa or rain-seeking prayers throughout the Kingdom where the believers seek God's blessings and forgiveness.

Zaki Yamani in Bahrain
MANAMA, March 9 (SPA) — Sheikh

Ahmad Zaki Yamani, the minister of petroleum and mineral resources, arrived here Sunday evening on a one-day visit for the opening, Monday, of the second Petroleum Exhibition and Conference in the Middle East. In an arrival statement he said that the Gulf Cooperation Council will help increase financial cooperation among its members. He added that there were endless visits for such cooperation. "Our duty," he said, "is to widen its scope either through the council or by other means." Gulf cooperation, at present, he went on, is confined to bilateral relations and the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

Donations to refugees

ISLAMABAD, March 9 (SPA) — The Mecca-based Muslim World League Sunday gave a large quantity of medicine, tents and foodstuffs to Afghan refugees. The gift was handed to Professor Abdul Rasoul Siaf, the head of the Islamic Alliance for the Liberation of Afghanistan.

British Chamber in Riyadh

RIYADH, March 9 (SPA) — A delegation from the Arab-British Chamber of Commerce led by Richard Beaumont, the chamber's board chairman, arrived here from Taif Sunday as part of its visit to the Kingdom. Members of the mission had talks during the past two days with members of the Taif and Jeddah chambers.

Qasim projects inspected

QASIM, March 9 (SPA) — Finnish Industry and Trade Minister Ulf Sundqvist arrived here Sunday to inspect industrial and agricultural projects in the area. He was accompanied by Minister of Industry and Electricity Dr. Ghazi Al-Gosabi, and the Finnish ambassador to Saudi Arabia.



(Trade mission picture service)
VISUAL EXPERIENCE: Jonathan P. Terry uses a Friedmann MK2 visual field analyzer — designed for the rapid and reliable detection of central visual defects — to examine a patient. The equipment, which can be operated by an assistant to produce information for interpretation by consultants or practitioners, will be introduced in Saudi Arabia when Terry visits as a member of the British Health-Care Export Council's trade mission from 20 March to 2 April.

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Attention Mr. Weber.



Mr. Mohammed Al Hassoon, Vice President (Sales) of Abdul Latif Jameel Co. Ltd., draws the names of the lucky winners of the Riyadh Motor Show Quiz Contest. On his right is Mr. Thomas Black, Vice President and General Manager. On Mr. Hassoon's left is Mr. H.C. Braund, National Marketing Manager, watching the draw, and on extreme left is Mr. Ziad Lama of the advertising department.

Abdul Latif Jameel Co. Ltd. extends a hearty congratulation to the winners.

The winners listed are requested to please contact Mr. A. Bamber, Branch Manager, Riyadh Branch, Abdul Latif Jameel Co. Ltd., Riyadh, Phone: 4910207 - 4913835 - 4913827, and collect their prizes.

Arab independence highlighted

Mideast oil show opens in Bahrain

By Aly Mahmoud

MANAMA, Bahrain, March 9 (AP) — The ruler of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa Bin Salman Al Khalifa, inaugurated the Mideast Oil show here Monday, featuring the start of a decade-long bid to switch from reliance on foreign to Arab expertise and homegrown technology.

Attending the ceremony were oil ministers Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani of Saudi Arabia, Said Al-Shanfari of Oman, and leading executives of Arab and Western oil companies.

Addressing the inaugural ceremony at the oil show here, Bahrain's minister of industry and development, Youssef Shirawi, said the 50-year-old Gulf oil industry has only during the last decade witnessed a phased switch to self-reliance after four decades of total dependence on foreign companies.

"Only the last 10 years have seen the real beginnings of an Arab oil industry whereby the means of production, the facilities and the organization involved, have been properly taken over by those to whom this vital resource truly belongs," said Shirawi. "The real challenge is the one we have begun to face and shall continue to face during the coming 50 years — the development of our production and its secondary and tertiary stages of recovery of technology, so that we can enhance resources and get better use of the associate gas."

Shirawi urged Arab producers to use oil and gas for the development of indigenous petrochemical, fertilizer and food industries.

"Our need from this (oil) industry is not limited to drawing revenues, but far more the creation of a trained and sophisticated workforce who can use the new technology to broaden our industrial base for the next 100 years," he said.



Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani

Yamani keynoted the need for closer cooperation with the industrialized nations of the West in the domains of technology and know-how.

The four-day exhibition, he said, was to be coupled with a conference and seminars wherein Arab and foreign experts were to discuss questions of prospecting, refining and others.

Officials said the top 20 companies of the international oil industry were taking part in the exhibition and seminar, with a group of speakers from universities, oil companies and contractor firms delivering research papers.

Zaki Yamani arrived Sunday for a one-day visit to inaugurate Bahrain's exhibition. Yamani told the Gulf news agency he was to hold oil cooperation talks with Shirawi.

The talks, he said, will upgrade coordina-

tion between the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council. He did not elaborate.

Aspects of the planned cooperation also were to be a continuation of existing links between the Gulf nations that are members of the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), the Arab version of OPEC.

Bahrain depends on Saudi Arabia for much of the financial assistance needed to develop local industries which along with a thriving banking sector and ever-expanding tourism, are the mainstay of the country's economy in the post-oil era.

Bahrain, once one of the Gulf states' main oil producers, is now practically without oil-producing crude oil at a daily average rate of 50,000 barrels.

Saudi Arabia supplies most of the crude oil that keeps Bahrain's refineries in business.

The Saudi Arabian government also was to finance the \$1.2-billion causeway that will link Bahrain to mainland Saudi Arabia, with the promise of broad trade exchange and tourist boom for Bahrain.

Sony pioneer visits Kingdom

JEDDAH, March 9 — Masaru Ibuka, chairman and chief executive officer of Sony Corporation is on a five-day visit to the Kingdom to attend the Round Table Conference on Economic and Industrial Development, according to a Sony press statement Monday. The conference currently is being held in Riyadh.

Ibuka also will visit the Sony Language Laboratory factory in Jeddah. Ibuka is a scientist whose pioneering work led to the development of the transistor, which revolutionized the electronic industry.

Document gives rules for Arab investment

By Muqrin Muhammad

JEDDAH, March 9 — A royal decree published here Monday promulgated a ministerial decision on a unified capital investment agreement in 21 Arab countries. The agreement was approved by the Arab summit meeting held in Amman (Jordan) last November after amendments introduced by Saudi Arabia. It calls for a role to be played by the private sector in inter-Arab development. Following is the unofficial translation of the statutes of the agreement:

The Council of Ministers Decree No. 52 dated 6/3/1401 H, 12/1/1981

The Council of Ministers, after reviewing a transaction enclosed to Finance and National Economy Minister Sheikh Aba Al-Khalif's letter no. 24/553 of 20/2/1401 H (27/12/1980) that included the Arab unified capital investment in Arab countries, which approved by the 11th Arab Summit conference in Amman in last November, and presented by his excellency for ratification: The following was decided: 1 — Ratification of the agreement of the unified Arab Capital Investment in Arab countries as per the enclosed draft. 2 — Issuing a royal decree to the effect.

The Second Deputy Premier

The Agreement on Unified Arab Capital Investment in Arab Countries.

The number states of the Arab League; In order to achieve the objectives of the Arab League charter, the joint defense treaty and economic cooperation among the member state; and the collective principles of the joint Arab economic strategy agreements and the resolutions of the Arab League Economic Council.

With the aim of enhancing comprehensive Arab development and economic integration;

Believing that investment among Arab countries occupies a basic field in the joint Arab economic strategy, and could be organized by filling in productive factors to support joint development based on mutual benefits and common interests;

Realizing that providing a suitable atmosphere for the movement of Arab economic resources in joint Arab investment requires drawing legal investment principles in the context of a clear regulation.

lations policy, unified and stable, would facilitate the move of Arab capitals and invest it in Arab countries which serve development, liberalization and progress in these countries which will improve the living standards of their citizens;

Aware that the possible limit for such a policy lies in guidance toward a form of Arab economic citizenship that has common benefits by the investor should be treated, whatever his nationality is, under the rules of any country that apply to its citizens; and state the freedom of movement of Arab capital inside Arab countries and to be protected by guarantees against non-commercial dangers and by a special legislative system, in addition to the privileges and facilities granted by the country hosting the investment in the context of its national sovereignty;

Wishing to implement these principles directly in the member states without interfering in natural reflection as an international commitment,

Considering the rules mentioned in this agreement as a minimum limit in dealing with Arab capitals and investments which should not be reduced in the structure of the joint Arab economic strategy or bilateral cooperation level or the national regulatory rules;

Have approved this agreement and its supplement, which is considered an inseparable part of the agreement, and declared their readiness to implement it totally affirming their desire to exert their utmost efforts to achieve its objectives and aims.

Definitions

Article (1)

The words and phrases used in the agreement are defined as follows, unless the flow of the draft indicates otherwise:

1. — The Agreement is the unified agreement for investment of Arab capitals in Arab countries signed by Arab League member states which are parties to the agreement.

2. — Arab countries are the member states of the Arab League.

3. — The Party country is the Arab country to which the agreement is implemented.

4. — The Arab citizen is a natural and legal citizen and enjoys a nationality in a country which is party to the agreement, provided that there would be no share of the capital belonging to a non-Arab in a direct or indirect way, and is considered inside the definition of the joint Arab project which should be fully owned by Arab citizens in case that the person should not have a nationality in another country.

5. — Foreign capital is the money owned by an Arab citizen and includes everything that could be evaluated in money of natural and legal rights, including bank deposits and financial investment. Interests accrued from Arab funds is considered Arab money. Also shares that comply to this definition are considered Arab money.

6. — Arab Investment Capital is when the Arab capital is used in one of the economic development fields with the aim of achieving interests in a member country apart from the country of the investor's nationality.

7. — Arab Investor is an Arab citizen who owns Arab capital and invests it in a member country of whom he is not a national.

8. — The Council is the Economic Council established under the Article (8) of the Joint Defense Treaty and the Economic Cooperation agreement among Arab League member states approved by the league's council on 13/4/1950, or any further adjustments to the article.

9. — The Central Party is the party referred to in Article (37) of this agreement.

10. — The Court is the Arab Investment Court.

SECTION ONE — GENERAL RULES

Article (2)

The countries party to this agreement allow, in the context of their rules, the movement of Arab capital among them freely, and they encourage and facilitate its investment. That is according to the plans and programs of economic development in the party countries which profits the host country and the investor. They guarantee to protect the investor and preserve the investor's investment, interests, rights and provide legislative rules stability as far as possible.

Article (3)

1. — The regulations of this agreement state the minimal limit for treating investors.

2. — In light of the minimal limit, priority in implementation will be for the regulations of the agreement in that it contradicts with the regulations and policies of the member states.

Article (4)

The regulations of the agreement are derived and interpreted according to the principles on which it is based and the objectives it serves; then to the joint principles of the Arab League member states' legislations; then to the principles of recognized international rules.

SECTION TWO

TREATMENT OF THE ARAB INVESTOR

Article (5)

The Arab investor enjoys the right to invest in any region of the member state in fields not prohibited to the citizens of that country and not restricted to them only. This adheres to the ownership percentage stated by the rules of the concerned country. The Arab investor also enjoys required guarantees and facilities according to the regulations of this agreement.

Article (6)

1. — In accordance to the rules of the previous article, Arab capital investment in a member state is treated equally as the capital owned by nationals of the concerned country, and eventually gets equal legal treatment regarding rights, commitments, principles, and formalities. This does not include any additional privileges which may be granted by the member state to Arab investment.

2. — The Arab investor has the right to choose any other treatment stated by the general rules of the country where the investment is employed according to the rules or an international agreement given to non-Arab investor in a similar field. That does not imply special privileges granted by the host country for a specific project because of its special importance to that country.

Article (7)

1. — The Arab investor enjoys the freedom of transferring Arab capital to any region in a member country, and the freedom of regular transfer of benefits. The investor can transfer the capital to any other member state after fulfilling the due commitments and without adhering to any monetary, administrative or legal restrictions and without application of tax or fees on transfer. This does not include banking service fees.

2. — The original capital can be retransferred after the period of the end of the investment according to its nature, or five years from the date of transfer which ever comes first.

The rules of this article do not apply to measures undertaken by a member state to ensure remittance of its citizens' money abroad.

Article (8)

1. — The Arab investor has the right to dispense

his investment as allowed by the nature of the investment and the limits given to citizens of the country where the investment is made.

2. — The Arab investor does not adhere to any restrictions or any discriminating administrative or legal regarding monetary and foreign transfer control.

3. — Treatment of the investment should continue according to the rules of this agreement as long as the required conditions are fulfilled.

(c) Abstention from the implementation of a valid judicial order having a direct bearing on the investment.

(d) Causes in any other way, by act or by abstention, damage to the Arab investor by the legal provisions in force in the state where investment is made.

(2) The cost of compensation shall be equal to the damage sustained by the Arab investor and in pursuance to the type and volume of the damage.

Article 11

(1) The compensation shall be in cash if investment becomes impossible before the occurrence of the damage.

(2) The cash compensation shall be assessed within six months from the day of damage, and shall be assessed within six months from the day of damage, and shall be paid within a year from the date of agreement on the amount of compensation, otherwise the investor shall be entitled to delayed interests on the unpaid amount with effect from the day following the expiry of the period and in accordance with the rate of banking interest prevailing in the state where investment takes place.

Article 12

The Arab investor with the members of his family shall enjoy the right to entry, stay, movement and departure without let and hindrance in the state in which the investment takes place, and all conditions shall be imposed on this right without a judicial order and taking into consideration the provisions of.

Article 13

The workers in the investment and their families shall enjoy the facilities of entry, stay and departure.

Article 14

(1) In the different fields of activity, the Arab investor shall adhere to the maximum amount of coordination with the state where investment is made, and with its different organizations and machineries. He shall respect the rules and regulations in conformity with the provisions of the agreement. In the establishment of Arab investment projects and their management an development according to the state's economic development program, he shall make it obligatory to do everything which consolidates the project structure and reinforces Arab economic integration. In the realization of this, he shall abstain from everything which would tend to disturb the general order and norm and to obtain illegitimate gains.

(2) The Arab investor shall bear the responsibility of disturbing the commitments contained in the above clause, in accordance with the law in force, the state of investment or where this bread takes place.

Article 15

In consideration of the rights envisaged by the agreement, the Arab investors shall be subject to the obligations to which the citizens of the investment state are bound, in accordance with the provisions of the law in force in that country.

Chapter III

Preferred Treatment.

Article 16

The state concerned shall determine the additional privilege of Arab investment, in excess of the minimum limit envisaged by this agreement, granting the preferred privileges, it will specifically take into consideration the following:

— The importance of the project in regard to the future development of national economy;

— The Arab joint ventures;

— The proportion of Arab assistance in the management of the project;

— The extent of Arab capability on the technology employed;

— Creation of Arab domination over management and technology employed;

— Creation of the opportunities of work for the citizens of the host state and other Arabs, an participation in the capital of the investment state;

— The sector in which the investment falls.

Furthermore, the investment concerned shall determine the preferred treatment in accordance with the previous considerations of Arab investment projects essentially owned by Arab citizens.

Article 17

The privileges determined for the preferred project shall be recorded in a statement to be sent to the central authority in the state of the project, the council, explaining the extent of the privilege in regard to time and place.

Chapter IV

Supervision of the agreement's implementation.

Article 18

The council shall undertake supervision of the implementation of the provisions of this agreement. In this, it will have to:

1. Interpret the texts of the agreement;

2. To issue, amend and annul the rules and measures for the implementation of the provisions of the agreement;

3. To suggest amendment of the rules, provisions and measures connected with the investment in the state concerned, in order to help implement the provisions and purposes of the agreement;

4. To collect and coordinate reports, data, statements, legislations, rules and statistics connected with the investment, and the sectors open for investment as well as their conditions in the states concerned, after their obtaining from the proper authorities. They shall be placed at the disposal of the Arab capitalists with a view to encouraging and helping them to invest in Arab projects;

5. To help in the creation of orders and establishments which facilitate or encourage the realization of the aims of the agreement, including the consultative and executive machinery and the regulations for the collection of financial and human resources and directing them in a balanced manner toward developmental investment inside the Arab projects;

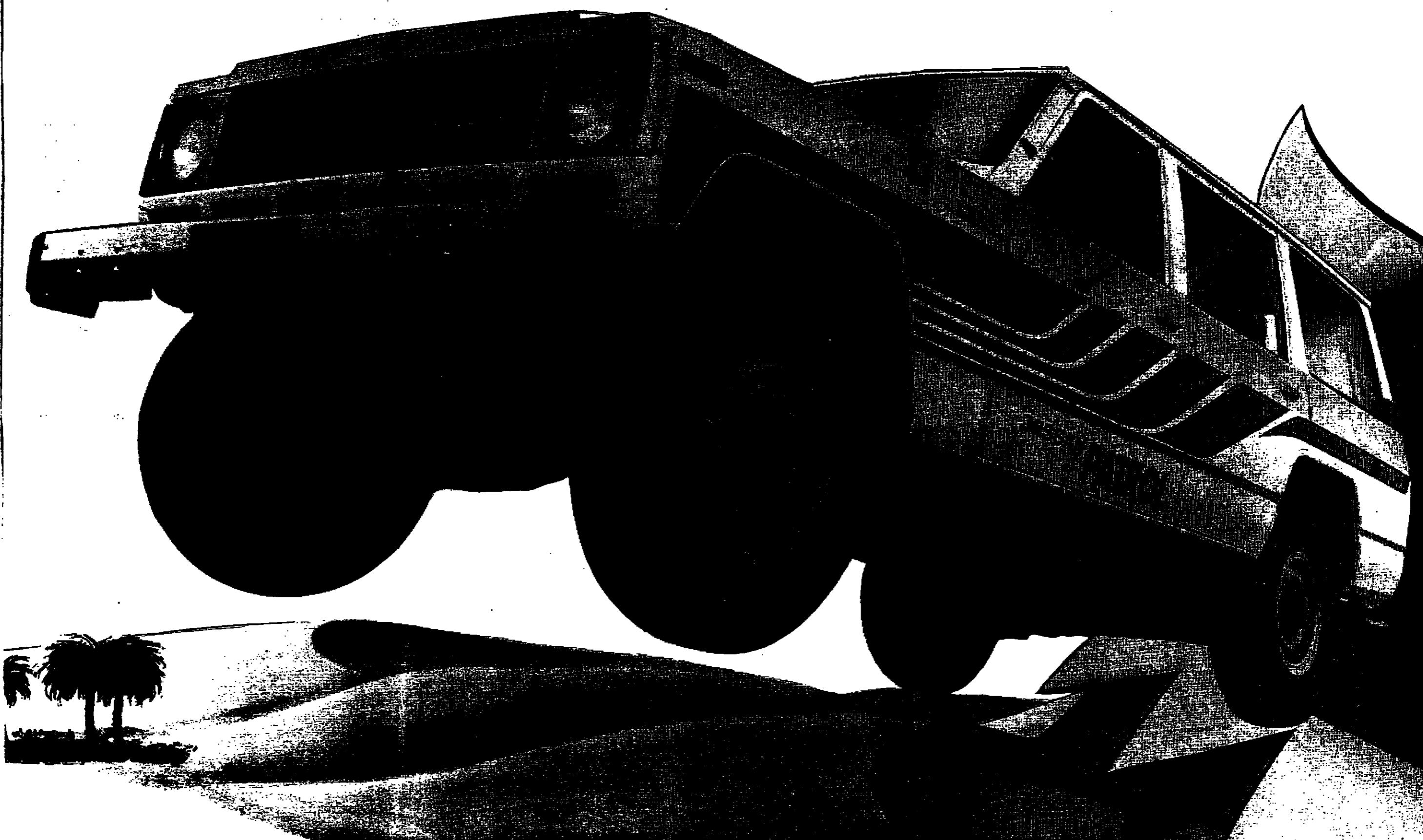
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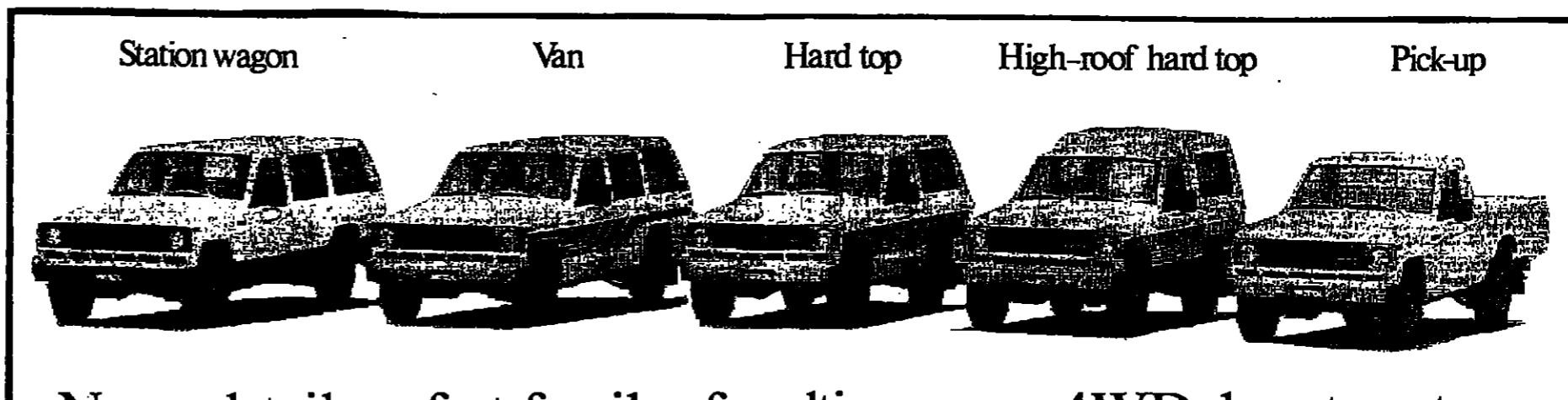
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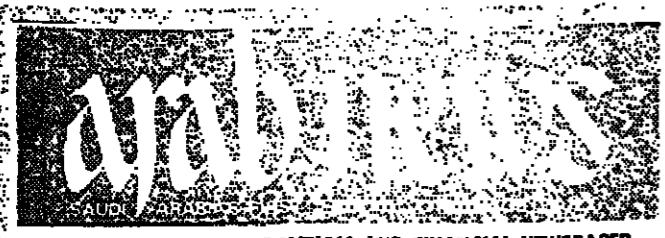
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Guides and Brownies renew pledge

By Kathy Linn

JEDDAH — The power of combined thought was seen when Brownies and Guides celebrated their annual "Thinking Day" recently here. Its aim is to think of their fellow Guides throughout the world as a gesture toward international understanding.

"Thinking Day" is a way of commemorating the birthdays of the founders of the Boy Scout and Girl Guide, the late Lord and Lady Baden-Powell. By coincidence both celebrated their birthdays on Feb. 22. "Thinking Day" is thus celebrated by Guides throughout the world on the most suitable day nearest to that date. Boy Scouts similarly hold what they refer to as "Founder's Day".

The 700 or so Guides and Brownies in Jeddah had a special and honored guest — the Lady Patience Baden-Powell, wife of the founders' grandson, Lady Baden-Powell, Chief Commissioner of the British Girl

Guides Association, flew in here by courtesy of Saudi specially for the event.

Commissioner for British Guides in Saudi Arabia, Mrs. Joan Springs, said they were honored with Lady Baden-Powell's presence. "We had been planning for the day since last September," she said.

Mrs. Springs said six nations were represented at "Thinking Day" — Saudi Arabia, the United States, Britain, Canada, Greece and Indonesia. The program included a parade of national flags, singing of national anthems, parading of the world flag of the Girl Guide movement and a parade of the flag of each unit taking part. Over 50 flags were on display on that day.

The Guides and Brownies renewed their promise to the Guiding movement, gave an entertainment, sang international songs, ending the song "Tape" which is common to the movement throughout the world. "It is based on the guiding and scouting traditions which

in turn are based on the experience of Lord Baden-Powell in the early days in South Africa."

The Scouts movement is 73 years old and the Guide movement only two years. Mrs. Springs said it was the biggest youth organization in the world and "stronger than ever." Britain alone boasts almost one million Guides and Brownies. "The movement is set up on a patrol system and aims to teach its members tolerance toward each other and now to work together," she said. "It is designed to develop character to make young people better citizens."

Other guests at "Thinking Day" included the Guide Commissioner from Egypt; a former member of the World Council for the Girl Guide movement; the wives of ambassadors for the countries involved; a local Jeddah resident, Mrs. Maree Cullen, and a past chairman of the U.S. Girl Scout Neighborhood in Jeddah.



FIRE: A fire raced through the 30-storey Hilton Hotel, in Las Vegas, killing eight persons and injuring 300 others recently. Photo shows fire brigade personnel fighting the fire. This was the second fire to hit the gambling capital of the United States. Last November, 34 persons were killed in a fire at the MGM Grand.

Fires fail to dampen tourists' spirit

Las Vegas hoteliers optimistic

By Charles P. Wallace

LAS VEGAS, (LAT) — The recent fires in Las Vegas appear to have done little to tarnish the city's appeal as a garden of earthly delights, but hotel managements and tour operators agreed that fire-safety questions have become more important to visitors than the lure of slot machines and showgirls. An informal survey of major Las Vegas hotels showed few cancellations after the fires at the MGM Grand Hotel last November and last month's blaze at the Hilton Hotel. But many tourists hedged their bets and demanded hotel rooms close to the street.

Although short-term prospects appeared good, particularly for the forthcoming holiday weekends, fears about the future of the

to Las Vegas, but that will really be minimal," Cannon said. Debbie Allen, the Los Angeles area manager of the Carver Travel Agency, which specializes in tours to Las Vegas, reported only a minor dropoff in reservations, but said her customers "are more opinionated about fire safety and are asking a lot more questions." She said that many callers were asking to be placed in small hotels, or on the lower floors of the bigger hotels. "We may be promoting smaller, different properties for awhile," she said. "We had people going out today and every one of them showed up." Tess Poston, customer service manager of Gray Line Tours in Los Angeles, said. "No one has canceled." Las Vegas derives a large share of its revenue from conventions and meetings. A spokesman for the

ing a meeting for 15,000 people in the ski industry next month, said he had no expressions of worry from participants. "Our people travel a lot and know these things happen," he said. "I guess people don't think it's going to happen to them."

"I think conventions will be leery of the individual properties," Robert Vannucci, manager of the Aladdin Hotel, said. "After the MGM fire we got a lot of requests for lower floors, when in the past most people wanted the tower rooms. The main concern is how you're equipped to handle a fire. But I think most people view these as unfortunate incidents." Theodore Anderson, vice president of the Argus Research Corp., a Wall Street firm, agreed about the long-term impact. "I think people are going to be a little

"At the Union Plaza, a 22-storey hotel in downtown Las Vegas, Robert Cannon, the manager, said that he doubted there would be any sudden loss of business. "I don't think this is going to hurt. There will be a few people who change their minds about coming to Las Vegas, but that will really be minimal."

city deepened measurably after the Hilton fire. "When you have two fires of this magnitude it has to have an effect," said Keen Guin, vice-president of the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce. "I know this question is uppermost in the minds of people in this community."

Anthony Hoffman, an analyst with the Chicago-based investment house of A.G. Becker and Co., said that concern about the fires could be enough to "take the edge off" his city's recovery from last year's sluggishness. "If somebody's planning to go to Caesar's Palace next week, I imagine he'd be little worried that somebody is burning down the town," Hoffman said. "There will be a lot of people who say 'I don't want to go to Vegas right now.'"

At the Union Plaza, a 22-storey hotel in downtown Las Vegas, Robert Cannon, the manager, said that he doubted there would be any sudden loss of business. "I don't think his is going to hurt. There will be a few people who change their minds about coming

Las Vegas Convention and Visitors' Bureau said that none of the planned conventions had been canceled or moved.

"Basically, we have seen very little fallout from the fires," said Jim Jalety, president of Las Vegas Convention Planners. "Safety is a major concern. Every person we do talk to now brings up the standards and the safety codes, not the entertainers playing in the showrooms." Clarence Siegfried, director of the American Rental Association, which is holding a convention for 5,000 people in Las Vegas said that he had received calls of concern from a number of guests at the meeting, primarily about the location of rooms. Siegfried said his association was printing fire-safety instructions to be handed out for the first time. "I'll have to evaluate a lot of things when this is over to see if we come back to Las Vegas again," he said.

Despite such concerns, a number of convention operators said that Las Vegas was one of the only cities in the country that could provide facilities and efficient service to large conventions. Robert Ingemie, who is organiz-

nous about any hotel — particularly a Casino Hotel. But I don't expect it to be very long-lasting."

Fred Lewis, a vice president of the Summa Corp., which owns or operates four Las Vegas hotels, said that the fact that the city and the Hilton were filled to capacity at the time of the fire demonstrated that the MGM blaze had had little impact on the city. Lewis said that because the Hilton fire appeared to have been caused by arson, it showed that "there is some poor, sick soul out there, but at least the fire was not the result of carelessness."

At the Elegant Escort Agency in Las Vegas, Sylvia, a woman who said "we never use our last names in this business," noted that business had fallen off sharply immediately after the Hilton fire. "After the MGM fire, business really increased — I guess people were so happy they weren't killed," Sylvia said. "Judging by today, things are really slowing down, though. I expect our patrons to move to smaller hotels."



MINICAR: The rising prices of gasoline in the United States have forced the people to go in for minicars. This car, which has the speed of 104 kph, can cover 160 kph with only five liters of gas.

Minicar craze catching up in America

By Patrick Boyle

LOS ANGELES (LAT) — Is America ready to be shoehorned into a two-passenger commuter car? Diane Nenne is. The 18-year-old college student already drives a Honda Civic, one of the smallest cars available in the U.S. market. And after viewing a group of even smaller cars recently as part of a marketing study, she said she would be willing to move to what some see as the next generation of minicars. "I personally like small cars," she said. "I don't like sitting in something that looks like a boat."

Market researchers say Miss Nenne is part of a still "mini"-minority of car buyers whose needs and tastes run to two-passenger cars with very little room for kids, luggage and the dog. Most Americans, even those buying small Japanese and American cars, have traditionally needed more space than is available in a tiny two-passenger commuter car. However, rising gasoline prices might be changing that habit, creating a new niche in the U.S. car market that could widen into a major segment. And because the world's smallest cars are now built by the Japanese and European auto makers, analysts worry that should an American market develop more quickly than expected for such cars the U.S. auto industry could fall even further behind its foreign competitors.

The smallest American-made cars — of Chevrolet Chevette, Ford Escort, and Chrysler Corp.'s Omni-Horizon — are all

about a foot longer than the Volkswagen Rabbit, two feet longer than the Honda Civic and three feet longer than some of the smallest cars made in Japan. General Motors Corp. and Ford Motor Co. both will reportedly introduce their own new minicars in 1984, but the vehicles will be about the same size as models currently sold in the United States by Toyota and Honda — and will be larger than the two-passenger commuter cars these and other Japanese companies already build and sell in Japan.

American auto executives have traditionally scoffed at suggestions that a large U.S. market might develop for cars with room for only two passengers and with engines so small they have barely enough horsepower to get the car up to freeway speed. However, recent evidence indicates that some car buyers are indeed interested primarily in fuel-stingy transportation — commuter cars built elsewhere routinely deliver well over 40 miles per gallon in city traffic — and care little for the creature comforts Detroit has grown fat selling for so long. Despite the continuing slump in auto sales generally, the smallest cars available here — the Honda Civic and Toyota Tercel — have continued to sell well.

The combined sales of those two models will probably be less than 200,000 vehicles in 1981, or less than 3 per cent of the car market, however. And Detroit executives are reluctant to spend the \$3 billion it would take to bring out an entirely new minicar without

being certain that they can sell at least 500,000 of the cars a year and recoup that investment. "The sales potential for minicars is there, but no one knows how great it is," said one Ford marketing official. "It would cost \$3 billion to find out and we don't have the money to gamble. We just can't throw that kind of money into a gap in the market that hasn't been tested."

Cars much smaller than the current crop of subcompacts, which are from 155 to 165 inches in length, never did well in the U.S. market until gasoline prices began rising rapidly after the Arab oil embargo of 1973-74. The lone success story of the small cars of the 1950s and 1960s was the Volkswagen Beetle. Even its popularity began to wane in the years just before the embargo. Other models, such as the Subaru 360 and the Honda 600, were criticized as being too small to drive safely among the huge trucks and big cars operating on U.S. highways. They were also considered unattractive and did badly in competition with the better-styled, larger imports coming from Europe and from other Japanese manufacturers.

These first minicars were later replaced by slightly larger cars more suited to the tastes of American car buyers, leading to the success of the importers and eventually to a serious decline in the market share of the U.S. auto manufacturers. Smaller cars sold well in Japan and Europe because motorists there generally paid twice as much for gasoline as American car owners.

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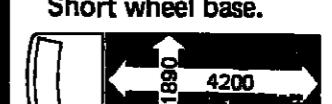
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To down interest rates

U.S. proposes cuts in credit programs

WASHINGTON, March 9 (R) — The Reagan administration has proposed sharp cuts in government credit programs for farmers, students, exporters and prospective home-buyers in a move designed to bring down interest rates.

The proposal, which will be included in the budget package President Reagan will unveil on Tuesday, calls for a reduction of \$13.6 billion in government direct loan obligations and loan guarantees this year and another \$2.1 billion in 1982.

Budget Director David Stockman told reporters the size of government loan programs had quadrupled over the past 12 years and now accounted for roughly one-third of all U.S. credit market activity. This "explosive growth" he said, had produced record interest rates.

Stockman said the Reagan administration was committed to reducing the government's share in the credit markets and returning it to private lenders.

Treasury Under-Secretary Beryl Sprinkel, who briefed reporters with Stockman, said: "I consider this move the first of many that will contribute to lower interest rates and ultimately lower inflation."

The programs that would be hit hardest under the proposal include student loans, Export-Import Bank financing, food for peace aid, agricultural price support and various low-interest government mortgages.

The list of cuts contained few surprises as Reagan mentioned most of them in his first

address to the nation on Feb. 18.

Stockman said the only area in which government credit would be expanded was economic support funds, designed to help nations with severe balance of payments problems, which would be increased by \$900 million in 1982. He named Turkey and Latin America as places which would probably benefit.

Meanwhile, a former top-ranking government economist, however, said Sunday that Reagan's program of sweeping tax and spending cuts will fail in its expressed aim of reducing inflation while spurring economic growth.

Walter Heller, the chief economist under presidents Kennedy and Johnson, said in a television interview that the Reagan administration was "kidding itself" about what could be accomplished by its plan.

The new administration has predicted that its program will stimulate economic growth of 4.5 per cent a year by 1984, while simultaneously halving the nation's 12 per cent inflation rate.

"What disturbs me is that he (Reagan) is promising us that we can have both a big expansion in the economy and a big contraction in inflation," Heller said. "The two things are simply inconsistent," he added.

Heller said the Reagan plan was a "very risky path to take." It could fuel a damaging surge in inflation, he said, especially if Congress passed proposed tax cuts before implementing complementary reductions in public spending.

Credit cards gain popularity

MONACO, March 9 (AFP) — Credit card usage will greatly expand in the world in the next two years, as computerized financial transactions multiply and banks find checks and money increasingly burdensome to handle, bankers at a major convention here said.

At the same time, advanced technology is also bringing cards with built-in mini-

Syria's GNP up by 21 per cent

DAMASCUS, March 9 (AFP) — The Syrian government in a report issued here has said that the country's gross national product increased by 21.1 per cent last year, the Syria news agency, SANA, reported.

The GNP was put at 73,325 million Syrian pounds (\$18,331 million) last year, according to the report, issued on the 18th anniversary of the ruling Baath Party's seizure of power.

Per capita income increased by 17.8 per cent, rising from 4,412 pounds (\$1,183) in 1979 to 5,199 pounds (\$1,300) since last year.

computers as well as automated street corner devices offering a wide range of banking services. Even gasoline pumps will begin working with the invention of these pervasive rectangles of plastic.

The new developments raise fears that bankers may lose personal contact in their daily business, and in the process, some of their customers.

These were the conclusions of the third convention of the European Financial Marketing Association (EFMA) meeting held here last week. About 650 bankers from 25 countries attended.

The American-based computer multinational IBM presented its latest equipment. One automatic device, to be installed outdoors, not only distributes bills but also accepts check or cash deposits, transfers money from one account to another, and indicates the current amount in the account.

The bankers also raised the problem on integrating the systems. One cannot expect merchants to install three different terminals in their stores, just to accommodate three major credit cards, the bankers said.

"The basic problem for bankers is to make all the networks compatible," EFMA delegate Dominique Tulasne said.

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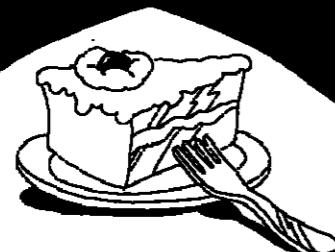


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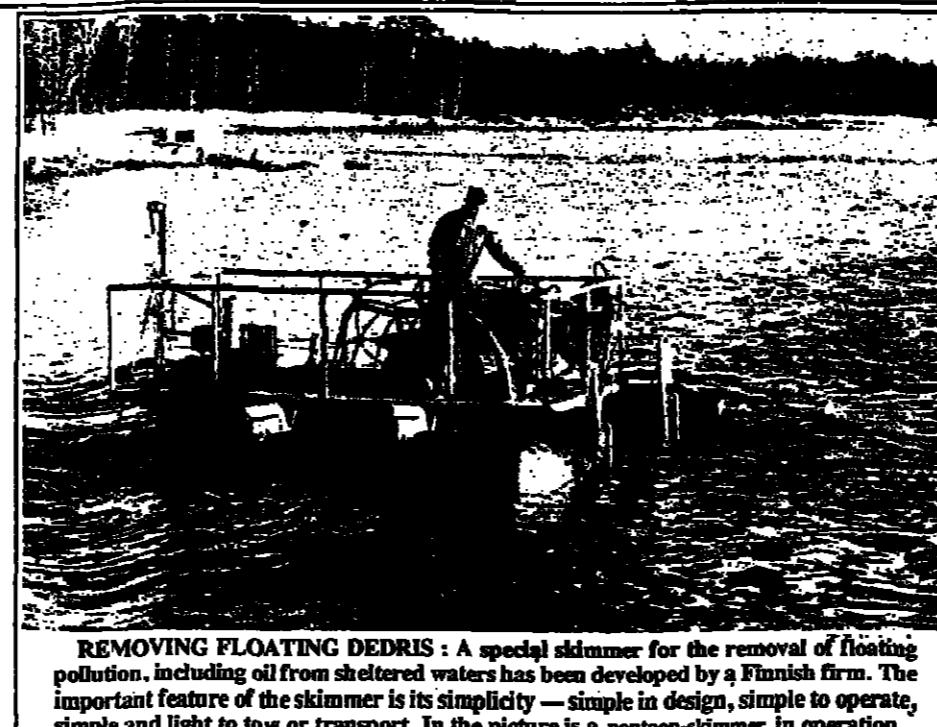
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REMOVING FLOATING DEBRIS : A special skimmer for the removal of floating pollution, including oil from sheltered waters has been developed by a Finnish firm. The important feature of the skimmer is its simplicity — simple in design, simple to operate, simple and light to tow or transport. In the picture is a pontoon-skimmer in operation.

In Britain

Deflationary steps predicted

LONDON, March 9 (R) — Leading newspapers have predicted the British government would resist criticism of its monetarist policies and impose harsher deflationary measures in its annual budget this week to get the economy back on course.

Business, labor and political pressure group, including some supporters of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, have been calling for a measure of reflaction to lift Britain out of its worst slump since the 1930s.

The only bright spot in what *The Sunday Times* said would be an unexpectedly savage dose of deflation was the forecast that minimum lending rate, which governs all British interest rates, would be cut by between two and three per cent to 11 or 12 per cent to help industry.

No official comment was available on the reliability of the newspapers' predictions, but both published accurate advance accounts of a government "mini-budget" last November, which led to opposition Labor Party charges of top-level leaks.

The government's annual budget traditionally the best-kept secret in British politics. The administration's economic strategy is widely regarded as being in disarray, thrown off course by soaring unemployment and

ILO urges doubling road network

GENEVA, March 9 (AFP) — A "realistic and balanced" transport policy for the third world must include road investment corresponding to social as well as economic needs, the use of labor-intensive road-building methods and more suitable vehicles than those of Europe, according to a study released here.

The study by the International Labor Office, which is the secretariat of the International Labor Organization (ILO), a U.N.-associated body, said that the road network density in most less-developed countries was on an average 10 times less than that in the industrialized world.

It said that a reasonable objective would be a doubling of the present road network in third world countries in the next 15 years using conventional materials.

But to achieve that, the less-developed countries would need to increase their cash revenue by three to five per cent per year, and the external deficit of these countries is increasing by 20 per cent a year, the study noted.

It also pointed out that any such new roads would have to be maintained, while at the present time third world countries are for the most part not in a position to maintain their existing road network.

More than four out of five of the population of the countries concerned live in the rural areas. They have to be assured access to the various social and public services, transport of their produce and a link with the outside world.

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FAO channels relief

Famine stalks African states

ROME, March 9 (AP) — The food shortage in Africa has deteriorated in the past six months and 28 countries are suffering from famine — two more than were stricken last fall, the Food and Agriculture Organization said Monday.

Refugees with match-stick legs and swollen stomachs are crowded into camps. In Somalia, there are 1.5 million refugees from drought and war, in Ethiopia, one million refugees are in dire need of food and in Uganda 500,000 are suffering from hunger, FAO said.

"No longer able to care for themselves, these homeless wanderers must depend on others for help, straining the already meager resources of the region, parts of which are completely arid," a FAO press release said.

FAO Directorate-General Edouard Satuma has added Madagascar and Upper Volta to a list of 26 countries suffering from severe shortages in September.

The other countries are: Angola, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritania, Mali, Mozambique, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Harvests in many of these countries have failed and there has been drought for two years. FAO said it is important to deliver food and other supplies before May, when the rainy season begins.

During the rainy season, it is difficult to get supplies in because of primitive roads and railroads. But if there is no rain, the situation will be even worse.

FAO said the 28 countries need to import

6.5 million metric tons for the 1980/81 harvest period, 43 per cent more than in 1979/80. The harvest period is different for each country, starting in early summer in some countries and late summer in others. Many of the countries cannot afford to step up commercial imports, the release said.

FAO, an organization of the United Nations, is organizing and channeling aid on an emergency and short-term basis and is providing technical assistance to increase food production.

In September, Satuma made a plea for more emergency international aid of the hungry in Africa. As of early February, 1.8 million tons of emergency food had been pledged for the stricken countries. But this is 2.7 million tons short of what the FAO estimates is needed in emergency supplies.

"Less food is being produced in Africa now than was grown in 1970," the FAO said. Per capita production in the 28 countries had fallen alarmingly over the past decade.

The FAO estimated cereal production in the 28 nations in 1980 at 20.8 million tons, 12 per cent down on 1978.

It was stepping up emergency aid to east Africa, and in particular to Somalia, Ethiopia, Uganda and Mozambique, where it

said drought and civil strife had worsened conditions.

Meanwhile, the government of drought-stricken Somalia Sunday launched an international appeal for some 470,000 metric tons of food to meet expected shortfalls for 1981 and warned it may need even more.

Omar Giama, deputy minister of national planning, told diplomats and foreign aid officials: "Already the stocks of certain essential food commodities have a reserve number in days."

"This critical condition for our people could be greatly exacerbated if the brought deeper further or if there is a further increase in the flow of refugees from the Ogaden desert."

Giama said that the government is unable to meet food requirements because of a 25-30 per cent drop in government revenues.

Somalia's economic troubles have been worsened by the exhaustion of its foreign exchange holdings and fuel shortages caused by the Iran-Iraq war.

Giama said Somalia's woes are part of a crisis sweeping northeast Africa, where drought is causing widespread hardship and warnings by Western agronomists of a looming major disaster. The economic strain on Somalia caused by the drought has been deepened by a steady flow of refugees from the arid Ogaden, where Somali-backed guerrillas are fighting to end Ethiopian rule.

China runs up \$7.5b deficit

PEKING, March 9 (R) — China ran a budget deficit last year of 12.1 billion yuan (\$7.5 billion), forcing its state-owned banks to print more money to help finance the shortfall, an official report published here said.

The report by top economic planner Yao Yilin, published in full in *The People's Daily*, said the deficit was (\$2.6 billion) more than the target of \$5 billion.

Yao said the shortfall had meant the government had, in effect, increased its overdraft at the bank, compelling it to issue an extra 7.6 billion yuan (\$4.7 billion) in new notes instead of a budgeted three billion (\$1.9 billion) during 1980.

However, the deficit was a 29 per cent drop compared with the 1979 figure of 17 billion yuan (\$10.6 billion).

"Because the amount of currency in circulation went up, the supply of products was not able to keep up and retail prices rose an average of roughly six per cent on the previous year," the report said.

Prices of non-staple foodstuffs, meaning foods other than items such as grain and oils, had risen 13.8 per cent last year.

Yao said the large deficit was mainly due to over-expenditure on capital construction projects, many of which are being axed as part of his retrenchment program.

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Record wheat output predicted this year

NDON, March 9 (AP) — The International Wheat Council expects a world record crop of 470 million metric tons this year according to estimates it published last week.

The council, which met in London last week, said its estimate is dependent on good weather in the northern and southern hemispheres.

World wheat consumption this year is expected to be about 460 million metric tons, up 453 million tons in 1980, the council said.

Production in 1981 would accordingly reach 470 million tons — 25 million more than in 1980 — to allow for some rebuilding of stock from their current levels. At present, it seems likely this target could be achieved, given favorable weather from now on in major growing areas," said the council.

Combined planted areas in 1981 in the five major exporting areas — Argentina, Australia, Canada, the European Economic Community's group of 10 nations and the United States — in 1981 "are likely to be above last year's record as producers respond to higher return and expectations of export demand," the statement said.

Weather conditions until now in the major producing regions in the northern hemisphere were generally favorable, the said.

This should mean for larger crops in other producing areas, including the Soviet Union and China, correcting an earlier estimate that Russian winter sowings had fallen

behind because of bad weather.

The IWC said that at the end of the 1980-82 crop year, combined stocks in the five major world wheat producing areas will total 41 million metric tons, down from 46 million tons the year before.

The IWC said it expects world trade in wheat and related products to total nine million metric tons in 1981-82 and 95 per cent of exports involved in this trade would have to be borne by the five major producing areas.

It said there are sufficient stocks in the United States and the European Common Market, but major crop failures this spring and summer could lead to an extremely tight market.

Stocks in the United States totaled 25 million metric tons and in the EEC some seven million. But the IWC warned that not all these stocks were available for trading at current prices, for example, the farmer-held reserves in the United States and the intervention stocks in the EEC.

Stocks in Australia, Argentina and Canada would be lower at the start of the 1981-82 crop year, the IWC said. The IWC pinned its hopes for greater output on the lifting of restrictions in the United States and elsewhere, and indications that land set aside or used for other cereals or grains had been returned to wheat sowing. As a result, wheat-sowing areas in the five major producing areas now are the largest for over 20 years.

On the Soviet Union, the IWC said: "It will take a bumper spring harvest to achieve a total wheat crop large enough to reduce imports."

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Ministry of Communications	Renewal and extension of the ministry's present central laboratory	—	500	19.4.81
Ministry of Communications	Asphalting of the road leading to Juhfa Mosque, Rabegh at the length of 9 kms.	—	500	19.4.81

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7.3.81	Contra/Trailers/Flats	A.E.T.	Merzario p/persia
7.3.81	Bagged Wheat	Alpha	Taichung
7.3.81	Bagged Barley	S.C.S.A.	Fresno City
8.3.81	Contra/Gen/Timber	MTA	Atalaya
5.3.81	Bulk Cement	Rolaco	Zeus 1
6.3.81	Bulk Cement	Al Sabah	Toki Arrow
5.3.81	Bagged Barley	Alsaada	Adamas
9.3.81	Cement/Steel/Rebar/Gen.	Kanoo	Alomeriah
7.3.81	Cement/Gan/Trucks	O.Trade	Saudi Prince
7.3.81	Contra/Cement/Steel	O.C.E.	Union Hodeidah
8.3.81	Steel/Mt Gas	O.Trade	Al Riyadh
7.3.81	Bottles	—	Maria
8.3.81	Bagged Barley	Alsaada	Mazda
7.3.81	Tiles/Timber/Gen/Steel	O.Trade	Eastern Academy
7.3.81	Bagged Sugar	Bamaodah	Jacek Malczewski
8.3.81	Contra/Busses/Load	Attar	Atlantic Freezer
5.3.81	Load Mys	—	Christine Maersk
9.3.81	Frozen Chicken	O.C.E.	Thomas Roth
7.3.81	Containments	Alireza	Taxiarhis
7.3.81	Vans/Gen/Contra/Mobiles	Shobokshi	Prvi Splitski Odred
8.3.81	Pig Iron/Timber/Gen.	Attar	Anajm
7.3.81	GJ Pipes/Gen.	O.C.E.	
8.3.81	Bagged Barley	—	

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3.5.1401/9.3.1981 CHANGES PAST 24 HOURS

Triton-C	Gosaibi	Wheat	8.3.81
Cape Leeuwie	Orni	Bulk Iron Ore	6.3.81
Taitung (1st call)	SEA	General	8.3.81
Maldives Star	UEP	Bagged Barley	4.3.81
Family Unity	Gulf	Bagged Sugar	4.3.81
Columbus Venture	Alireza	Bagged Rice	4.3.81
Ibn Al Afandi	Kanoo	Containers	8.3.81
Almar	Gosaibi	Bagged Cement	5.3.81
Debra Everett	Gulf	Fruits	8.3.81
San Felice	Gosaibi	Bagged Barley	5.3.81
Ibn Al Nafees	Kanoo	Steel Pipes/Gen.	7.3.81
Tom Helvig (D.B.)	Sabah	Bulk Cement	5.3.81
Blue Pine (D.B.)	Barber	Bulk Cement	4.3.81
Uni Cement	Globe	Cement Silo VSL	30.11.81

Gold keeps millions of investors on tenterhooks

LONDON, March 9 (R) — All across the world, millions of investors are anxiously wondering what is going to happen to their gold... how much further will it go down before it begins to go up?

It might be a package of gold trinkets under the mattress, a collection of coins bought in banks, or an investment portfolio representing bars of bullion held in vaults. The investors might be governments, companies, millionaires or ordinary people captured by the allure of this ancient form of money which never ages — gold cannot be oxidized and is resistant to atmospheric agents.

The price of gold has been dropping steadily on bullion markets recently and has reached its lowest level for about 15 months, trading at just over \$460 an ounce. Some analysts predict gold will soon test what they are calling the psychological 450-dollar barrier. If gold plunges down through that barrier, there may be panic selling. And yet that might be just the right time to buy.

"The gold market is affected by two things: outside factors and its own psychology," said a London market expert.

One outside factor driving gold down at present, dealers say, is the lack of international tension compared with the start of the 1980s when gold was at its all-time high of

\$875 an ounce. At that time, Soviet troops had gone into Afghanistan and the American hostages had been seized in Iran.

At times of international tension, gold becomes especially attractive to investors as a safe holding. People hope it will maintain its value even though currencies may slump on the foreign exchange markets. For instance, although gold had been dropping from its record height, it shot up briefly to \$720 an ounce last September at the outset of the Iraq-Iran war.

Another powerful depressing influence on gold recently has been the high interest rates in the United States where the monetary authorities are clamping down credit in order to fight inflation.

High interest rates have made the dollar attractive, pulling investors away from gold and the other precious metals such as platinum and silver which tend to follow gold's fortunes. Promises by the Reagan administration to keep money policies tight have also supported the dollar which has been climbing on foreign exchange markets in recent months.

Once a clear trend is established in the gold market, like the present downward course, the market's psychology takes over and the "momentum effect" sets in. This was summed up by a dealer in January 1980 when gold was soaring towards its record.

Taipei car firm plans to expand production

TAIPEI, March 9 (CNA) — Yue Loong Motor Co. is expanding its capacity with an annual target set at 260,000 units within the next few years.

Part of the confidence has been based on a healthy demand for the domestic market which saw sales rising by 15-25 per cent each year during the past years, a Yue Loong spokesman said.

Yue Loong has invested NT \$4.2 billion (about \$116.7 million) to set up an assembly plant at Sanyi. The Sanyi plant will become partially operational in May with an initial annual production of 72,000 fuel-efficient passenger cars and station wagons, the spokesman said.

When the Sanyi plant becomes fully operational, the new assembly lines will add another 72,000 units of passenger cars and 48,000 units of trucks to Yue Loong's annual output, the spokesman added.

EEC may act

LONDON, March 9 (AP) — Negotiations for a new world tin pact, opening in Geneva Monday, could be the last at which the 10 nations of the European Common Market will vote individually.

Major disagreement is looming over a confidential circular from the EEC commission to member governments, heads of ministerial divisions and heads of national delegations taking part in commodity pact negotiations or discussions.

The message signals a proposal to cancel the individual initiative of heads of national delegations in favor of a common EEC position, allowing only one viewpoint and a block vote.

The circular specifically aims at a common stand on the international cocoa agreement, expected to come into force this year, and says that if the 10 EEC nations agree, the procedure could be extended to other com-

modities and raw material agreements as well.

The proposed procedure would give the commission power to veto any decisions about to be taken in the executive boards, committees and councils of the world cocoa, coffee, and tin pacts, since total consumption of these commodities by EEC countries is about 40 per cent or more of the commodity traded.

Votes in commodity agreements are usually shared out according to market performance — exports for producers and imports for consumers. Of the usual 1,000 votes on the consumer side, the commission could veto any major decision requiring a two-thirds majority vote.

Hitherto, veto power for coffee was restricted to the United States as the world's largest consumer, or to Brazil as the largest producer, for cocoa to the Ivory Coast and for tin to Malaysia, both producers.

The commission's circular said: "The political initiative of the commission is aimed at improving the outward image of the community and to internally reinforce community cohesion and solidarity."

It said there would be "joint participation of the community and its member states in all agreements in which they are concerned" taking place within the "framework of a single delegation expressing itself with one voice".

If delegations fail to agree on a common stand, the issue will be referred to EEC headquarters in Brussels for a binding decision of the ministerial council.

Qualified diplomatic informants said this weekend that disagreement loomed over the circular because Britain, France and the Netherlands have their own particular problems and do not always see eye to eye with other commission members.

Experts in the commodity markets said failure to agree in the conference rooms and referral back to Brussels could impair the smooth working of commodity pacts, where market price fluctuations sometimes call for immediate action.

Foreign Exchange Rates

	Quoted at 5:00 P.M. Monday	SAMA	Cash	Transfer
Bahraini Dinar (1,000)	97.00	112.00	—	8.55
Belgian Franc (1,000)	2.79	—	—	—
Canadian Dollar	—	—	—	—
Dutch Mark (100)	158.00	158.50	157.95	—
Dutch Guilder (100)	143.00	143.50	142.45	—
Egyptian Pound (100)	—	—	4.13	4.35
Emirati Dirham (100)	91.25	91.40	91.40	—
French Franc (100)	67.00	67.50	67.00	—
Greek Drachma (1,000)	—	66.00	65.90	—
Indian Rupee (100)	—	—	40.50	—
Iranian Rial (100)	—	—	—	—
Irqi Dinar (10,000)	8.50	—	—	—
Italian Lira (10,000)	32.00	33.50	32.90	—
Japanese Yen (1,000)	16.10	—	16.50	—
Jordanian Dinar	—	10.46	10.39	—
Kuwaiti Dinar	—	12.23	12.23	—
Lebanese Lira (100)	—	84.25	83.60	—
Moroccan Dirham (100)	—	—	71.50	—
Pakistani Rupee (100)	—	—	34.00	—
Philippines Peso (100)	—	—	44.00	—</td

U.S. admiral says

West fails to match Soviet forces might

NEW YORK, March 9 (Agencies) — U.S. Adm. William Crowe, commander of NATO forces in southern Europe, says there is now an alarming imbalance between Soviet and Western forces weighted in the Soviet Union's favor.

In an interview with *Newsweek* magazine published Sunday, Adm. Crowe said the imbalance had resulted from the strengthening of Soviet forces and a failure by the West to match the Moscow investment. "The result has been an alarming imbalance that is quite clear across the board — land, sea and air," he said.

Crowe also indicated that NATO eventually may have to expand its boundaries to the south in Europe, saying: "With recent clashes in the Middle East and our increasing reliance on Mideast petroleum, the strategic importance of the Mediterranean has increased and the center of gravity of NATO has shifted southward from the central front."

He said he did not think it feasible for NATO to expand its boundaries now, at a time when its forces are spread thin. But he suggested that NATO members could expand their spheres of influence of the southern flank on an individual basis.

Meanwhile, a former U.S. spy chief said the United States should forget about trying to stay ahead of the Soviets in conventional weaponry and concentrate on space warfare.

United States space force that could shoot down Soviet missiles would be a speedy and inexpensive way to circumvent the Soviets in the arms race, said Daniel Graham, former head of the U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency and a retired army lieutenant general.

"The country that establishes military dominance in the space arena will 'rule the roost,'" he said Saturday at a monetary conference in Phoenix, Arizona. Graham said the Soviets are turning out hardware "like sausages," and can further speed production.

It is foolhardy for the United States, which possesses superior space technology, to pour billions of dollars into carriers, tanks, missiles and submarines, he said: "More United States troops, tanks and weapons" will not only not solve our problems, it might make them worse," Graham said. The wiser approach is

to "beat them with technology in important areas."

In an interview, the minister counselor at the Soviet Embassy in Washington called Sunday for cooperation between the United States and his country, warning that if "we continue to view each other with outmoded categories, then we are in for a lot of trouble."

Appearing on the ABC Television network's "Issues and Answers" news interview show, Vladilen M. Vasev said "we're not asking for favors... We would like to work with the present administration (in Washington)." He denied the Soviets are trying to drive a diplomatic wedge between Washington and its western European allies, calling it "a superficial notion."

CIA collaboration alleged in raid on Mozambican town

MAPUTO, March 9 (Agencies) — The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and the South African Secret Service collaborated in a cross-border raid by Pretoria's troops on the Mozambican town of Matola in January, the official Maputo daily *Noticias* reported here.

The report, carried by the official Mozambican news agency AIM, said that only days before the attack, a former captain in the Mozambique armed forces, Alcides Chivite, had been in contact with the U.S. embassy in Maputo. Chivite, who was in charge of the war materials department at general staff headquarters, met Louis Leon Olivier, one of four U.S. diplomats deported from Mozambique last week on charges of being CIA agents, the paper added.

Olivier had been Chivite's CIA contact since January 1 the previous year, the paper said, quoting information from the Mozambican security ministry. The newspaper said that Chivite, who had access to information on Mozambican army supplies and supplies of the former "ZANU" and "ZAPU" Zimbabwe guerrilla forces, had been arrested after the South African raid. He and seven

Arab news International

Chinese 'wonderboy' has X-ray eyes

PEKING, March 9 (AFP) — Young Wei Ruoyang has added another chapter to the history of China's "wonderboys" — children whose peculiar psychic powers have defied all known laws of science. Last year the parents of 12-year-old Wei discovered that their son had X-ray eyes. They found that he could see through brick walls, identifying objects on the other side, and even diagnose tumors in sick people.

The chance discovery resulted from press reports that children in several Chinese provinces could "read" with their ears. The reports deeply intrigued Wei's mother, a teacher at the Institute of Traditional Medicine in Lanzhou, northern China.

On the off-chance that her son had similar powers, she gave him a test which immediately proved positive: the boy was able to "read" a character written on a scrap of paper slipped into his ear.

More astonishing still, she found that Wei was able to see radiation emitted by people and by objects. Journalists from a newspaper in southern China were called to see a dramatic demonstration, in which Wei was

able to specify the exact whereabouts of a certain object seven floors below him.

They reported that the boy also "X-rayed" several people at the demonstration, with 100 per cent success. He found that a certain Wang had a black shadow on his heart — this was later confirmed by doctors — and that a woman sitting four meters away had an eye tumor.

One of Wei's favorite games, the paper reported, was to map underground rivers and canals simply by looking at the ground. Another was to read his mother's thoughts. Asked how he did it, the boy said simply that he used his ears.

Wei Ruoyang has now taken his place in the Chinese press with a legion of child prodigies boasting unexplained powers, alongside such "wonderboys" as Chen Yijia from the central province of Hunan. Chen's peculiarity was to have learned 1,000 Chinese characters by the age of 23 months — a truly startling achievement.

The daily newspaper at Ningxia, one of China's poorest and most backward provinces, has given much space lately to the

case of four-year-old Liu Yang, who, apart from being able to read and write 800 characters, speaks English. The paper, its admiration undisguised, said the toddler learned English from his grandfather and explained to anyone who asked: "I want to get to university sooner."

Other child prodigies have turned their attentions to mathematics, like Shen Kegong, 11, from Shaanxi in central China, who took just 20 seconds to calculate the value of 625 to the power of nine. And like math students Shi Fengshou, 26, who is said to produce results faster than an electronic calculator just by using his fingers. He can multiply two 10-figure numbers in eight or nine seconds, reports say.

Even China's Auster television has been following the wonderboys. Millions of viewers saw one program in December in which a boy with his back to a blackboard was able to "read" phrases chalked on the board by a teacher. Another child, his body covered in ticking watches, made them all stop instantaneously by what the TV commentator described as "sheer willpower."

U.S. aides back Taipei over F-16s

WASHINGTON, March 9 (AFP) — A Taipei request to Washington for F-16 fighters is being backed by some high officials in the administration, the *Washington Post* reported Monday. The Post said the officials in the White House and the State Department felt it "important for the U.S. to maintain the friendship of Taiwan."

The State Department refused to comment on the report, adding "We've said nothing official about Taiwan." The Post said that if the deal went through, either for the extremely fast F-16 currently in service with the U.S. Air Force or a less powerful export version, it could harm Washington's relations with Peking.

A Defense Department spokesman said last month that the joint Sino-American communiqué of Jan. 1, 1979 establishing full diplomatic links between the two countries and the April 1978 law on U.S. relations with Taipei were considered by the government as "solemn obligations."

Casey asks Japan to aid Asian states

TOKYO, March 9 (AP) — William Casey, director of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, met with Japanese Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki Monday and discussed "a wide range of problems," relating to Asia, government officials said.

The officials, however, declined to disclose details of the meeting and added, "We were not informed of Casey's schedule and purpose of visiting Japan, because of his position."

Japan's Kyodo news service said that in a 30-minute meeting, Casey called on Japan to increase aid to Asian nations, particularly to Pakistan and Thailand, as Soviet and Vietnamese troops are stationed in their neighboring nations.

Suzuki told Casey that Japan will provide Asian nations with more support, Kyodo said. It said Casey delivered to Suzuki a message from U.S. President Ronald Reagan, saying he was looking forward to meeting Suzuki to discuss "a wide range of bilateral problems."

W. German coalition's popularity diminishes

BONN, March 9 (R) — The popularity of the West German coalition government has dropped sharply since its victory in last October's general elections, an opinion poll institute has reported. A poll by the Wieden Institute showed that Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's Social Democratic Party (SPD) would win only 38.2 per cent of the vote if elections were held now, compared with 42.5 per cent in October.

The junior coalition partners, the Free Democrats, would have 10.1 per cent, compared with 10.6 per cent at the general elections, the survey said Sunday.

15 drowned in India

NEW DELHI, March 9 (AP) — Fifteen persons drowned when a boat sank in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu, the United News of India (UNI) reported Monday. Seventeen of the 32 passengers aboard swam to the safety of the banks of the Cauvery River, UNI said.

Police said the bodies of six women and two children had been recovered. A search for the other bodies was continuing at the accident site. The travelers were returning to their village after attending a marriage party when the mishap occurred.

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89 rebel guards freed in Spain

MADRID, March 9 (R) — About 80 of the 150 rebel civil guards who stormed the Spanish parliament in an attempted military coup two weeks ago have been released, Spanish newspapers have reported. The reports, which could not be confirmed officially, said the guards were back in their units or at home.

They had been held at a civil guard school outside Madrid since the 18-hour occupation of parliament ended Feb. 24. Four generals, 17 civil guard officers and several army officers are under arrest for their alleged involvement in the attempted coup.

Lt. Col. Antonio Tejero Molina, who led the rebels into parliament, demanded as a condition of his surrender that privates and non-commissioned officers should not be prosecuted. He is in a Madrid jail.

Witnesses quoted several of the civil guards as saying during the occupation of parliament that they were not aware of the coup plans beforehand. Some said they were ordered to board buses without knowing where they were being taken, others that they were told to go and fight a Basque separatist commando that had attacked parliament.

Namibia discussed

BONN, March 9 (AP) — Special U.N. emissary Martti Ahtisaari held talks Monday with Foreign Ministry State Secretary Guenther Van Well on Western efforts to arrange a peaceful transfer of power in Namibia. A foreign ministry statement said the exchange of views "served the continuation of the Namibia question."

"Both sides discussed the situation after the Geneva conference on Namibia and the just ended Namibia debate in the U.N. General Assembly," the statement said.

World convention ends

Ban on whale-killing proposed

NEW DELHI, March 9 (AP) — An international wildlife conference attended by 50 governments has just concluded here after reaching agreements on the trade in whales, parrots, green turtles, rhinoceroses and dozens of other threatened species.

The 10-day conference, which ended Sunday, was the third meeting of the 67-nation convention on international trade in endangered species of world fauna and flora (CITES), also known as the Washington convention. The treaty is administered by the United Nations Environment program.

The meeting, joined by 16 observer governments and 80 conservation groups reviewed the multi-million-dollar global trade in wildlife products — including ivory, furs, hides and whale oil — and wild animals. The conference voted 37 to 2 last Friday to ban the trade of fin, sperm and "species of" whales despite vehement opposition by Japan and the Soviet Union, the two most important countries slaughtering whales to make mink food, lubricating oil, cosmetics, fertilizer, margarine and steaks.

The vote — surprisingly proposed by West Germany, a major trader in whale products, which imported wildlife goods worth an estimated \$50 million last year — was expected to put pressure on the International Whaling Commission to outlaw whale-killing in the three species.

Nkomo rebels cause concern

SALISBURY, March 9 (R) — An isolated bush fortress occupied by guerrillas of Zimbabwean minority leader Joshua Nkomo is causing concern among military commanders seeking the disarmament of thousands of men, military sources said. Gwai River camp, 140 kms north of Bulawayo, has become the unofficial headquarters for the Soviet-trained ZIPRA (Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Army) and a focus of its discontent, the sources said.

It was from the heavily-fortified Gwai River camp that ZIPRA sent a column of reinforcements toward Bulawayo during factional fighting last month. The column was halted and dispersed on orders from ZIPRA commanders and under threat of an air strike from Prime Minister Robert Mugabe. Military sources said between 4,000 and 6,000 men, whose arms included missiles and anti-aircraft weapons, were quartered at the Gwai River camp and were resisting disarmament.

Last month's Bulawayo clashes pitted ZIPRA against Mugabe's ZANLA (Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army) guerrillas and white-officered black troops from the former Rhodesian Army.

The central committee of Nkomo's PF-ZAPU party met during weekend to discuss the clashes. Party Vice Chairman Josiah Chinaman told reporters that disarmament must be even-handed between ZANLA and ZIPRA, apparently indicating opposition to the idea of ZIPRA being disarmed first.

During the central committee meeting, Nkomo reported on his loss of the home affairs portfolio, which controls the police, in a cabinet reshuffle last January and his appointment as minister without portfolio, Chinaman said.

About 300 persons died in the clashes last month and the rift deepened between the forces of Nkomo and Mugabe, who fought the seven-year war against white rule under a fragile alliance called the Patriotic Front.

Military sources said that Nkomo's authority among his guerrillas diminished because he refused to heed their demands for a total withdrawal from Mugabe's government.

World convention ends

Ban on whale-killing proposed

NEW DELHI, March 9 (AP) — An international wildlife conference attended by 50 governments has just concluded here after reaching agreements on the trade in whales, parrots, green turtles, rhinoceroses and dozens of other threatened species.

The 10-day conference, which ended Sunday, was the third meeting of the 67-nation convention on international trade in endangered species of world fauna and flora (CITES), also known as the Washington convention. The treaty is administered by the United Nations Environment program.

The meeting also voted 32 to 4 Saturday on a British proposal to clamp restrictions on the commercial trade on the entire parrot family, with the exception of the budgerigar, cockatil and Indian rosering parakeet species. There are approximately 280 species of parrots, found in tropical rain-forest areas.

The United States, Switzerland, Chile and Argentina opposed the move. An alternative American proposal to place bars on the trade of only 13 species was defeated. International trade in parrots is believed to be about one million birds annually.

Another British proposal to give protection to semi-precious black coral — widely used for jewelry and ornament — was passed by acclamation. The United States and Canada scored a victory by persuading the convention to lift a ban on the trade of the North American gyrfalcon. CITES allowed commercial exploitation of the bird, highly prized by falconers in the Middle East, after the Americans argued that their gyrfalcon populations had now become stable.

The conference decided to end ivory

smuggling by resolving that raw and semiprocessed ivory should be marked by local authorities.

Read this week in SAUDI BUSINESS

SAUDI BUSINESS is a monthly publication of the Saudi Business Group. It is published in English and Arabic. The magazine is aimed at providing information on the Saudi business environment, including economic, political, and social issues. It also features articles on various topics such as trade, investment, and tourism. The magazine is available in Saudi Arabia and abroad.

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Jel in Isla

einberger says

J.S. must bolster forces in Mideast

WASHINGTON, March 9 (R) — Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has said the United States should increase its military presence in the Gulf region and possibly supply arms to anti-Soviet Afghan rebels.

In a television interview Sunday he said if the absence of U.S. military forces in theulf and the Middle East would be "almost invitation to the Soviets ... to believe they could seize the oil-fields," there. He said the United States must make it clear to Moscow it will be taking an unacceptable risk if it tried to repeat its military intervention in Afghanistan.

The Reagan administration had made no decision on supplying arms to Afghan fighters.

Scotland Yard alert

Libyan assassin teams active

LONDON, March 9 (AP) — Scotland Yard believes that two or three Libyan assassination teams are now in London seeking to prominent Libyan opponents of Col. Jammar Oaddaf. amid signs he has incited another campaign against dissidents, informed police sources have said.

Several leading dissidents have gone into hiding or fled abroad over the last two weeks following Scotland Yard warnings they are likely targets, Libyan sources here reported today. "There are a lot of new faces around," one informant noted. "At least one has been recognized as a former official at the Libyan embassy who now is posing as a student here to study."

Scotland Yard spokesmen declined comment but police sources said that special agents are seeking to track "a number of Libyans who have entered Britain recently aiming to be students." The sources did not identify any of the alleged students, but Oaddaf's intelligence organization has a network of informants and sympathizers among the 10,000 Libyan students registered in this country.

However, *The Sunday Telegraph* reported it Abdul Attiyyah Al Obaidi, a key figure in Oaddaf's regime and closely linked with

and seizure by Israel challenged

TEL AVIV, March 9 (R) — Sixty-two Arab villagers from the occupied West Bank appealed to the Israeli supreme court Monday against the seizure of land on which Israel intends to expand a Jewish settlement, their lawyer said.

Last month, the Israeli military government confiscated the 1,065 acres and Arabs in Salfit, Tufel, Haris, Brukin and Sarita

Israel claims

commando wanted to bomb refinery

TEL AVIV, March 9 (AP) — Israel's military Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Raphael Eitan claimed that a Palestinian commando who flew a hang glider from Lebanon last week meant to bomb Haifa's oil refineries. The commando was captured early Saturday morning.

It was an interesting attempt," said Eitan, of the commando's solo flight Friday night across the radar-patrolled frontier in an

bank of Palestine to reopen in Gaza

TEL AVIV, March 9 (AP) — The Bank of Palestine in the occupied Gaza Strip, whose name the military government regarded as a major threat, will reopen soon under its original name, Israel Radio has reported. The radio said Sunday the military withdrew opposition to the bank's name. But a spokesman for the military command failed to confirm the report and said the case was still under consideration by judicial authorities.

The bank, which has been closed since 1973, appealed to Israel's supreme court for permission to resume operations. The court ruled that the bank's directors had fulfilled all one of the conditions stipulated by the

Abu-Hatzeira denies bribery charge

TEL AVIV, March 9 (AP) — Religious Minister Aharon Abu-Hatzeira denied innocence in court of bribery charges he said he was a victim of a racially slanted vendetta. Abu-Hatzeira took the stand midway through this first trial ever of an Israeli cabinet minister and testified that ministry was riddled with lobbyists and tried to pressure from virtually every figure to approve funds for religious institutions. He did not say what the named public figures expected in return. Abu-Hatzeira is accused of taking about \$100,000 worth of bribes in 1979 in return for giving enlarged loans and grants to Jewish religious seminaries.

He claimed the former director general of the ministry, Israel Lippel, was behind the

Sudanese judges

HARTOUM, March 9 (AFP) — Judges in Sudan have returned to work after a strike in protest against unsatisfactory conditions of service, the Sudanese News Agency said.

President Jaafar Nimeiri has issued a decree reappointing from Feb. 18 judges who earlier tendered their resignations, headed by the president, the agency said.

George Washington called terrorist, Arafat says

IRIN, March 9 (AP) — Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, was quoted as saying George Washington, Charles de Gaulle and Italian President Giulio Andreotti were considered terrorists by enemies. "George Washington was a terrorist for the English," the Turin daily *La Stampa* quoted Arafat as saying Sunday. "Giulio Andreotti was a terrorist for the Americans and the same goes for De Gaulle." He was quoted as saying U.S. President Ronald Reagan considers all "terrorists."

ers, he said but added: "Anything that discourages the Soviets from further adventurism would be a useful thing too." He said such a policy of direct U.S. aid "could only succeed if it were acceptable to the Afghan rebels."

Washington must also have the agreement of countries in the Middle East and the Gulf to increase its military presence in the area, he added.

But Weinberger said it was essential that the U.S. presence be increased to deter further Soviet adventurism and attempts to seize the oil fields. The United States must also improve its ability to move other forces into the region from points far away, he said.

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Scotland Yard spokesmen declined comment but police sources said that special agents are seeking to track "a number of Libyans who have entered Britain recently aiming to be students." The sources did not identify any of the alleged students, but Oaddaf's intelligence organization has a network of informants and sympathizers among the 10,000 Libyan students registered in this country.

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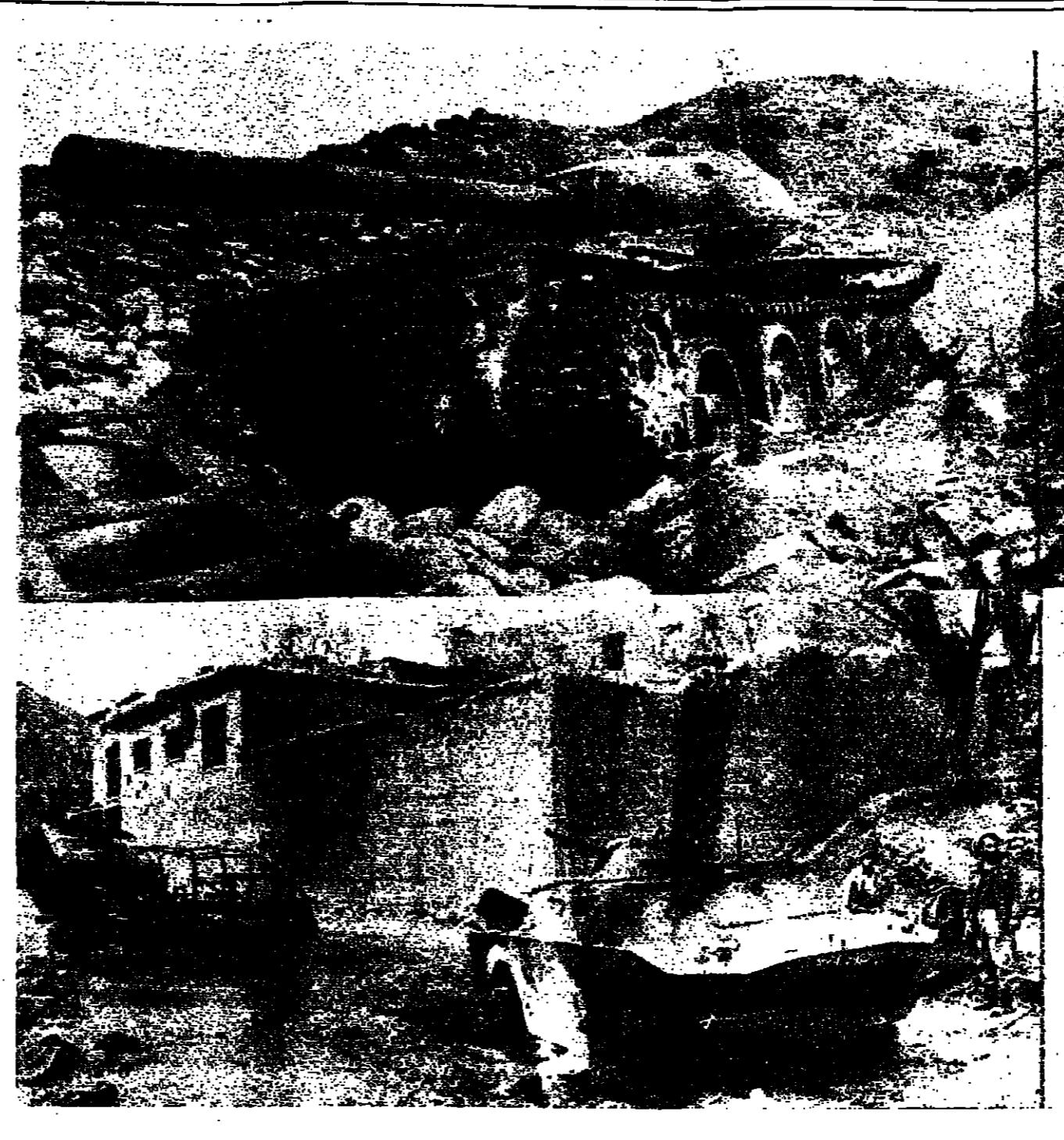
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AFGHAN REVENGE: A Russian T-62 Commando tank (top), armored cars and trucks destroyed in the Parwan Valley in Afghanistan by freedom fighters. These pictures were taken near Rodzai, north of Kabul, site of a Soviet base where Afghan freedom fighters have claimed many Soviet soldiers killed.

(AP wirephoto)

Shamir voices 'sorrow'

EEC support of PLO angers Israel

Community hasn't done this, and, unfortunately, that the European community, through its declarations and attitudes, ends up encouraging the PLO," Shamir said.

The foreign minister had lunch Saturday with Italian foreign minister Emilio Colombo.

Shamir returned to Tel Aviv Sunday after a three-week trip to the United States, Mexico, Colombia and Italy.

Mrs. Bhutto appeals for support

KARACHI, March 9 (AP) — The widow of executed Prime Minister Z.A. Bhutto Begum Nusrat Bhutto who was arrested here Sunday has called on the people of Pakistan to join in the struggle to restore "democracy" in the country.

In a statement, apparently smuggled from Karachi Central Jail and released here by Sanam Bhutto, she appealed to lawyers, journalists, teachers, doctors, students, workers, intellectuals, and democratic and patriotic forces all over Pakistan to "join in this struggle."

Mrs. Bhutto, who heads the banned Paki-

Gaza market area put under curfew

GAZA, March 9 (AP) — Israeli security forces slapped a curfew on the market area of Gaza after a bomb wounded six persons early Monday, and started systematic searches of the neighboring areas, correspondents in the region reported.

Earlier, Israeli radio reported an elderly Arab and a child were injured. The explosion, which also injured the man's horse, occurred while the territory's military governor, Gen. Yitzhak Segev was talking in a nearby building with the town's mayor, Rashad Shawa, the radio reported.

In his book, Dayan wrote that Tchami had told him during secret negotiations in Rabat

BRIEFS

MANAMA, (AP) — South Yemen introduced color television transmission to its people for the first time Sunday, the Gulf News Agency reported Sunday.

KUWAIT, (AP) — North Yemen has returned to Ethiopia a French-made BV-12 gunboat along with four of a total of 22 Ethiopian military officers who defected to the Yemeni state aboard the ship last month, the daily *Al-Quds* reported Monday.

Yemeni authorities are currently considering an application for political asylum for the remaining 18 officers the paper added.

BERLIN, (AP) — The East German government Monday denied sending specialists to help Libya forces occupying the Chadian capital of N'Djamena. A communiqué issued by the East German embassy in Lagos called the reports an attempt "to slander" the Communist country's solidarity with "the struggle of African peoples for freedom and national independence."

KHARTOUM, (AP) — Abdel Rahman Arbab, a senior Sudanese officer in the Red Brigades, Italy's ultra-left-wing urban guerrilla group.

TEL AVIV, (AP) — Following an eruption of unprecedented sectarian violence launched by ultra-orthodox Jewish zealots here during the weekend, Israeli newspapers Monday were near unanimous in pinning the blame, directly or indirectly, on Prime Minister Menachem Begin's coalition government. Edward Girard reported 11 crewmen had been plucked alive from the ocean, while three others pulled from the water were dead.

One man was rescued by a navy helicopter and the others by merchant vessels that sped to the scene, but rescue operations were hampered by severe weather as night fell. Lt. Robert Hoey, duty officer for Coast Guard operations in New York, said there was "a definite possibility" that more were dead.

Explaining that "definite possibility" that more were dead, explaining that we are still on the information-gathering stage.

Shamir expressed regret at not being able to meet the Pope, but he confirmed that the Pope would be visiting Israel at a date as yet unspecified.

On his talks in the United States, the foreign minister said he had told U.S. officials of his country's opposition to the sale of new arms to Saudi Arabia.

"The United States did not accept our point of view because of global considerations," Shamir said.

"Nothing could compensate us for the danger resulting from the sale of arms to our enemies," he said, adding that when the sale did go through, Israel would demand "the means to counter this new threat."

In another development, Shimon Peres, opposition Labor Party candidate for prime minister in the June general election, said Sunday that Israeli support for right-wing militias in south Lebanon was a wise policy that must continue. Peres, who as defense minister in a Labor government in the 1970s Maj. Saad Haddad, at a border crossing point Sunday.

Four persons were reported killed and scores injured in the clashes that erupted between supporters of moderate Bani-Sadr and other belonging to the hardline factions of the clergy-led Islamic Republican Party. Club-wielding security forces clashed with rioters, and sporadic shooting continued late into the night in Tehran, according to some reports.

The clashes issue came up in the Iranian Majlis (parliament) Sunday, where speaker Hojatoleslam Hashemi Rafsanjani criticized Bani-Sadr and called on the higher judicial council to investigate the incident.

While saying "it must be cleared up" if some groups had tried to insult the president at the rally, Rafsanjani added "It also must become clear who were those who were trying to preserve security" at the campus.

Rafsanjani noted several groups, including some with separatist intentions, and those who have openly announced armed struggle against the Islamic Republic, had come out in support of the rally when it was announced.

"We do not expect the president to tolerate their cooperation. The president must clarify his position toward the groups which in a calculated manner has risen against the state," Rafsanjani said, according to Pars.

Syrian president says

Merger with Libya to be realized

DAMASCUS, March 9 (AP) — President Hafez Assad in a speech marking the 18th anniversary of the Arab Socialist Baath Party in Syria said the merger with Libya "would be realized" and accused Jordan of supporting the Muslim Brotherhood organization.

Assad gave a four-hour speech at a rally in Damascus to mark the anniversary of the "Eighth of March Revolution," which in 1963 brought the Baath Party to power in Syria. Syrian Vice Premier Mustapha Khouroubi and another senior Libyan diplomats were present at the ceremony.

"We have agreed with our brothers in the Jamahiriya (Lib

For WBC title

Boza-Edwards outpoints Limon

STOCKTON, California March 9 (Agencies) — Challenger Cornelius Boza-Edwards of London, knocked down Rafael "Bazooka" Limon in the fifth round, withstood a game comeback effort by the Mexican fighter and won a unanimous decision Sunday to become the new World Boxing Council super-featherweight champion.

Boza-Edwards, a native of Uganda, ended Limon's three-month reign as champion by dominating the free-swinging, bloody fight which was televised nationally.

Limon was floored by a straight left in the fifth, took more hard punches in the sixth, but made a strong showing in the seventh through 10th rounds. Boza-Edwards was in command again, however, most of the last five rounds and staggered Limon several times.

The two left-handed fighters both weighed 129 pounds (58.5 kg) for the championship fight in the 130-pound (58.9 kg) division also

known as junior lightweight. Boza-Edwards, 25, went into the bout as the second-ranked WBC contender, behind Bobby Chacon.

Limon, from Mexico City, won the title Dec. 4 by knocking out Ildefonso Bethlem in Los Angeles. The two fought for the championship after Alexis Arguello gave up the title to move up to the lightweight division.

"I knew he'd get tired," said Boza-Edwards, "so I left him punch himself out earlier in the fight. He knew he couldn't put me away and that I could outbox him."

Boza-Edwards' record is now 30 wins and two losses. His manager, Mickey Duff, said: "I got worried a few times when he just stood there and traded punches, but he always came out ahead. He won because he's the better fighter."

Boza-Edwards, who added the second part of his name as a mark of respect for Jack

In second attempt

Flores whips Gushiken for crown

TOKYO, March 9 (Agencies) — Pedro Flores of Mexico wrested the World Boxing Association light-heavyweight title from the Japanese holder Yoko Gushiken Sunday night, stopping the champion in the 12th round.

As Flores unleashed a hail of punches against the helpless Gushiken, the towel came sailing into the ring from the champion's corner to signal to American referee Stephen Crosson that the Japanese had had enough.

The end came after one minute 45 seconds of the 12th round. Gushiken, 25, had been down earlier in the round, his second visit to the canvas after being felled in the eighth round.

For Gushiken it was the end of a title reign. He won the crown in October 1976 by pinning Juan Guzman of the Dominican Republic.

Barcelona goes down to Atletico Madrid

MADRID, March 9 (R) — Barcelona, without the kidnapped star Quini, lost a vital match in their quest for the Spanish League Championship. Atletico Madrid, the leaders, beat them 1-0, increasing the gap to four points with seven matches left to play.

There was no news Sunday about Quini, top-scoring in the league, who vanished a week ago, the club has agreed to pay a ransom but wants to know exactly how, where and when.

Team captain Antonio Olmo said after the match: "This has been the saddest week in my life." But he added: "Once I was on the field, I forgot about Quini. May he forgive me if he is listening."

In Chicago Andre Oostrom tallied twice to key a four-goal strength that carried the Edmonton Drillers to the North American Soccer League Indoor championship series with a 5-4 win over the Chicago Sting.

The Sting held a 2-0 lead at the half on tallies by Karl-Heinz Granitz and Arno Steffenhagen, the latter playing Saturday in his first indoor match.

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Edmonton closed within 3-1 on a 30-foot drive by Mike Sweeney. Defender Brett Hall answered for the Sting just 45 seconds later, scoring off a long clearing pass, but Edmonton then strung together four consecutive scores.

The champion looked on the way to victory up to midway through the eighth round, beating the 30-year-old Flores to the punch and eluding most of the challenger's blows.

But the fight turned the Mexican's way when he landed a hard right to Gushiken's face in the eighth round and put the champion down later in the round. Flores went for the kill in the ninth, but the experienced and courageous Gushiken weathered the storm until the 12th round. Then he was caught by a hail of punches which put him down. He got up groggy and was at Flores' mercy until his handlers threw in the towel.

It was Gushiken's first defeat in 24 professional bouts and Flores' 15th victory against six defeats.

The referee and Mexican judge Marco Rodriguez had Flores ahead at the end of the 11th round, 106-103 and 107-104, but Japanese judge Kazumasa Kuwata scored it

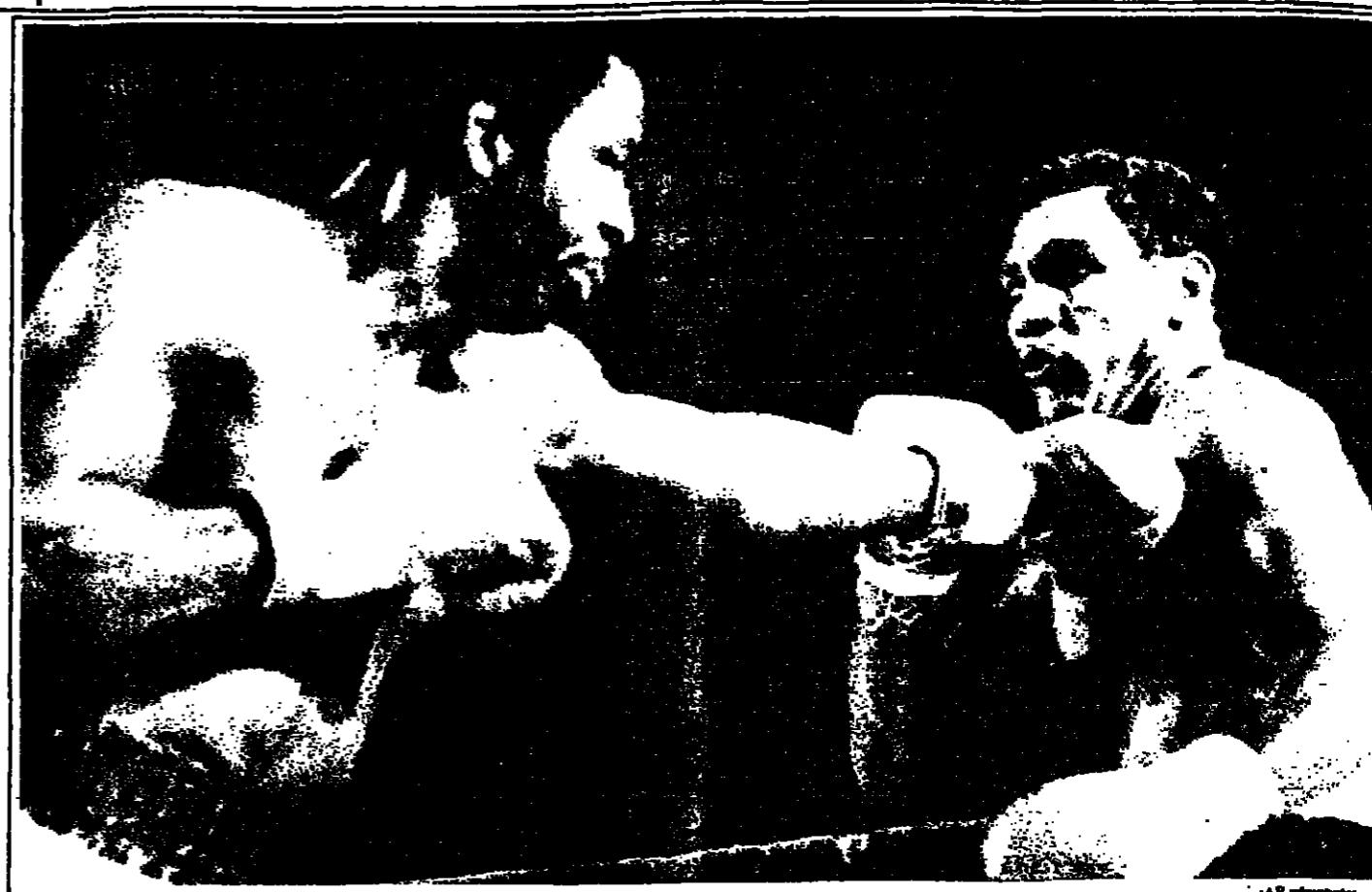
Flores proved as good as his word, becoming the first man to defeat the 25-year-old champion in 24 professional fights. The victory was Flores' first since he moved down from the flyweight class.

Meanwhile, unbeaten AZ'67 of Alkmaar stretched their lead in the Dutch Soccer Championship to nine points Sunday, with a win in the Hague where none of their five previous visits had been triumphant.

They were 3-0 up at halftime. Nijgaard, Tol Kist and an unwilling Hague defender were the scorers.

Kadiogo (upper Volta) beat Semassi of Sokode (Togo) 3-2 in a first-leg qualifying match for the African Soccer Cup Winners' Cup. Scorers — Kadiogo: Tassere, Ouedraogo (26 minutes), Kuiliga Zomalekwin sap (53). Semassi Zacharia (42), Yerima (72).

In Maseru, Lesotho/Matlama of Lesotho and power Dynamos of Zambia drew 1-1 (half-time 1-1). Scorers: Dynamos — Alex Chola (and minute), Matlama — Mahao Mateete, penalty (30).



WELL CONNECTED: American Jesse Burnett (left) lands a left to the chin of Australian Tony Mundine on the way to his point decision title. (AP Wirephoto)

Gene Mayer is champion

Scanlon outlasts Vijay

SALISBURY, Maryland March 9 (AP) — Bill Scanlon won the \$200,000 World Tennis Championship Tennis Invitational in Maryland Sunday by defeating last year's runner-up Vijay Amritraj of India 3-6, 6-2, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4.

The \$100,000 first prize was the biggest paycheck in Scanlon's four-year career. The 24-year-old Dallas native entered the round-robin tournament Wednesday after Eliot Teltscher injured himself during an opening round loss Tuesday to Brian Teacher.

Despite absorbing Teltscher's loss, Scanlon won the next four matches, including a 6-4, 6-3 victory over Amritraj on Thursday, to qualify for the final.

After a shaky first set, Scanlon played a more aggressive game in the second set, attacking the net on every opportunity. He broke service three times to take a 5-0 lead.

With a 2-1 lead going into the fourth set, Scanlon's serve began to falter as Amritraj came to the net for several easy points.

Scanlon took a 1-0 advantage in the last set, but blew a 40-0 lead in the second game as Amritraj broke service to tie the set at 1-1.

Both players held service through the next four games before Scanlon recorded a crucial service break in the seventh game.

In Denver, defending champion Gene Mayer overpowered an erratic-serving John Sadri with deep backcourt play, taking an unsurprising 6-4, 6-4 victory to win the \$125,000 United Bank Tennis Classic Championship.

In the doubles championship, Andrew Patterson and Butch Walts broke Dick Stockton's serve twice to defeat Stockton and Mel Purcell 6-3, 6-4.

Meanwhile Second-seeded Rod Laver of Australia defeated American Cliff Richey 6-3, 6-2 to win the \$33,000 Carte Blanche Tennis Legends championship.

Laver was the favorite to capture the \$10,000 first prize after top-seeded Ken Rosewall was shocked 6-3, 6-2 in the first round Thursday night by Owen Davidson.

The 42-year-old left-hander utilized a variety of ground strokes to dominate Richey, who won \$6,000 for the second place finish.

In the doubles competition, Roy Emerson and Fred Stolle defeated Rosewall and Laver 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 to claim a \$2,000 first prize.



Thomas Sjoberg
Swedish soccer squad coming

By a Staff Writer

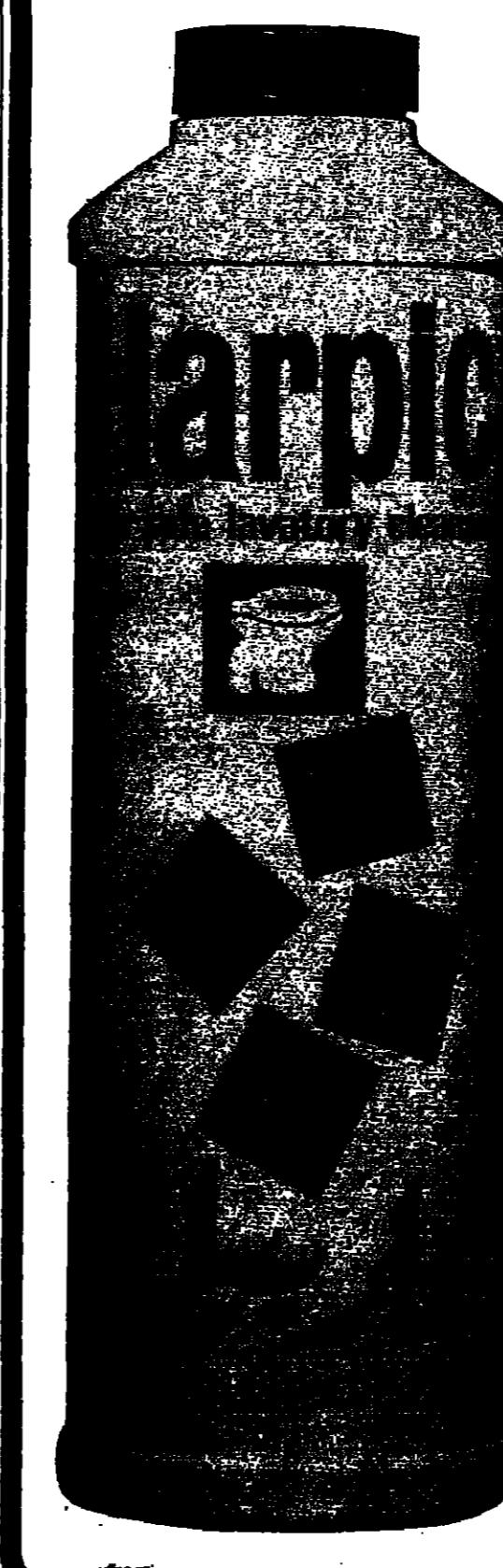
JEDDAH, March 9 — Swedish First Division team, Malmo F.F. will be making the scene in the Kingdom on Monday. The glamour outfit will take on Gadis in Damman on Wednesday and play Ittihad in Jeddah on Friday.

Malmo, who have the distinction of winning the Swedish League pennant on 12 occasions, boast of a couple of seasoned players including Thomas Sjoberg, who represented Sweden in the World Cup in Argentina.

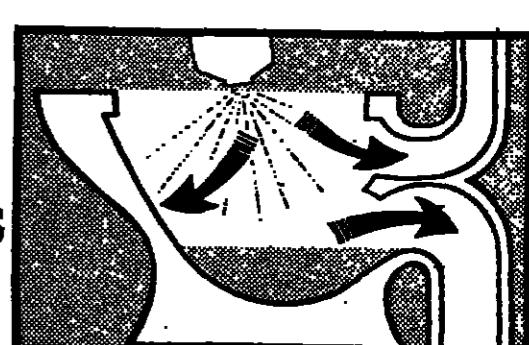
The team will be flown in by SAS, which had earlier flown in three other teams.

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76ers get past Bucks

Kings eclipse Suns

NEW YORK, March 9 — For the Phoenix Suns, who shined so brightly this season, it was only a partial eclipse.

The Suns, with the best record in the National Basketball Association's Western Conference, showed how the game should not be played Sunday as they lost to the Kansas City Kings 105-98.

The 88 points was the least ever scored by a Phoenix team and tied the NBA season low, set by the expansion Dallas Mavericks.

In other NBA games Sunday, the Philadelphia 76ers beat the Milwaukee Bucks 123-110 in a battle of Eastern Conference Division leaders; the Boston Celtics downed the New York Knicks 115-94; the Washington Bullets edged the Chicago Bulls 103-99; the San Antonio Spurs defeated Dallas 133-108 to clinch the Midwest Division title; the Indiana Pacers trimmed the Denver Nuggets 129-119; the Portland Trail Blazers beat the Golden State Warriors in overtime 120-112, and the San Diego Clippers defeated the Seattle SuperSonics 103-92.

Phoenix, now 53-21 atop the Pacific Division, had a four-game winning streak snapped by the Kings, who evened their season mark at 36-36.

The Suns jumped to an 8-2 lead, but Kansas City quickly caught up and held a 22-17 lead at the end of the first quarter. Phoenix scored just 34 points in the first half, its lowest of the season.

Ois Birdsong scored 30 points for the Kings. Truck Robinson had 14 points and Walter Davis 12 for the Suns.

76ers 123, Bucks 100: Milwaukee, which has clinched the Central Division crown, was hoping to gain ground on the 76ers in the race for the NBA's best regular-season record and

Davis Cup round-up

Britain surprises Italy

PARIS, March 9 (AP) — The new style Davis Cup Tennis Tournament got underway this weekend with what are considered the world's leading nations competing in a division one contest on a knock-out basis.

When the seedings were made last September Italy was expected to reach the semifinals against Argentina with Australia and the United States making up the other semifinal.

What has happened in the world of tennis since then, notably Czechoslovakia winning the Cup last December and France emerging as a potentially new force...

The Czechoslovaks defeated Switzerland 3-2 in Zurich, Ivan Lendl, the architect of last year's victory, conceding the dead rubber after a disagreement with the match umpire, and meet the United States in what should be a fascinating quarter-final in July.

Australia, without half of their Wimbledon doubles championship partnership, Paul McNamee, but with a super Peter McNamara, beat France 3-2 in Lyon. The French revival appears to be a fragile thing at the moment.

But perhaps the biggest surprise occurred in the English south-coast town of Brighton where Britain, who finished an undistinguished fifth in the recently finished King's Cup European Indoor Team Championship, defeated Italy, who have competed in four finals in the last five years, winning once.

Buster Mottram was the British hero, beating both Adriano Panatta and Corrado Barazzutti to total 19 singles victories in 24 Davis Cup rubbers. Yet the new doubles

Dale Singleton triumphs

DAYTONA BEACH, Florida, March 9 (AP) — American Dale Singleton passed Richard Schlauder on the 37th lap and broke away from the pack Sunday to capture his second victory in the Daytona 200 motorcycle classic.

Singleton, the 1979 winner and second-place finisher last year, finished the 52 laps at Daytona International Speedway with an average speed of 108.52 mph (174.64 kmh).

Schlauder took the lead on the 16th lap when Freddie Spencer's machine broke. Spencer, 19, had led for the first 16 lap and, like last year, was forced into the garage early.

Haynes, Greenidge in breezy stand

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, March 9 (AP) — England's obviously short of practice after the political controversy which caused them to abort the scheduled second Test against the West Indies struggled with both wind and ball on the second day of their four-day match against Barbados here Sunday.

Continuing from 210 for five wickets they took three pains-taking hours to add 88 before they were all out for 298 in their first inning. Barbados after an opening partnership of 83 between West Indies Test batsmen Desmond Haynes and Gordon Greenidge were 133 for three in reply at close.

The bulk of England's scoring was done by Peter Willey who carried his overnight score nine to 51, but he was dropped off fast bowler Malcolm Marshall when he was 17.

BRIEFS

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, (AP) — Rain prevented any play in the second cricket Test between India and New Zealand at Lancaster Park Christchurch Monday. India were 174 for 2 in their 1st innings. Two days remain and the weather is expected to improve.

KENTUCKY, (AP) — World champion Craig Virgin won the United States Cross Country Championship here Sunday. Virgin's final burst pulled him over by one fifth of a second after Rose had set the early pace only to be caught, as at the Paris world championships last year, by the American's urge.

PEKING, (AP) — Rotterdam and New York "B" team took the lead in their division Sunday in the Invitational Bridge tournament in Shanghai, the Xinhua News Agency reported. Rotterdam beat Hong Kong 13-7 and the New York team beat Hong Kong 20-0. Rotterdam had 33 points after two rounds to 27 for Shanghai "B" and Peking in Group "A" and New York "B" had 35 to 30 for Shanghai "A" and 29

Yellow Rose keeps in race

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH, March 9 — Yellow Rose kept within striking distance of leaders Pak Saudi in the Binzager B and H Cricket League with an exciting 16-run win over 1395 last Thursday. This gives them 20 points from six matches, only four behind Pak Saudi, who also scored a good win against Indian Embassy.

Yellow Rose cracked 180 runs out of the 1395 bowlers, losing 5 wickets in their 22 over spell. Khalid topped the score sheet with 44 and Moin followed with 36. 1395 lost their 1 early batsmen quickly but Penn and Amin put together a 60-run partnership to take them back into contention. Penn was out for 23, but Lloyd took over and continued the onslaught and put on another 40 runs. Amin eventually fell at 58 but although Lloyd remained unbeaten on 48 1395 could only manage 164.

Leaders Pak Saudi, downed Indian Embassy by 31 runs, hitting 147 for 7, then holding the Indians to 116 for 8 in their 22 overs. Pervaiz (42) and Shahbaz (30) led

the Pak attack, Rehmat taking 3 for 11 runs, while Nasser (34) and Mahmood (23) fought back for the Indians. Masim and Khalid both took two wickets, conceding 16 and 25 runs respectively.

Highest scorer of the day was JCC's Habib, whose 119 fell only 5 runs short of the league record, set six weeks ago by Shahbaz. Anwar added a useful 33 to help take the JCC total to 184. University could only reply with a poor 51 in 19 overs, Muzafar taking 3 for 6m and Salaman and Ghazi taking two wickets each for eight and four runs. This leaves University without a win in their six matches and bottom of the league.

IAL failed to maintain their winning form, crashing to Pak Jeddah by six wickets. Clayforth (22) and Alcem (21) added most of the IAL score, but lack of support saw them all out for only 61 runs. Adnan and Hamid did the damage, taking three wickets each for 11 and 12 runs respectively. Pak Jeddah needed only 15 overs to reach the winning total (Shahid knocking 23) losing four wickets.

America's favorite pastime in turmoil

ORLANDO, Florida, March 9 (AP) — Bowie Kuhn had a forlorn look on his face when he drove into Tinker Field Sunday for one of the few exhibition baseball games he will see all spring.

"When Kenesaw Mountain Landis was commissioner, and the same was true with Happy Chandler and Ford Frick, they came to Florida and stayed a month in the sunshine," the commissioner said. "I can't stay. I have a lot of problems back on the desk in New York."

The players have scheduled a strike May 29. Free agent salaries have become astronomical. Fans booted a break in training at Sarasota, Florida.

Club owners are asking mercy. In recent months four franchises — the New York Mets, Chicago White Sox, Seattle and Oakland — have changed hands.

Now one of the most respected owners, Ruly Carpenter, has announced he will try to sell the world champion Philadelphia Phillies. "Enough is enough," he said, referring to the unbridled escalation of salaries.

Kuhn's host at the second game here between the Minnesota Twins and Detroit Tigers, Calvin Griffith, greeted the commissioner with a dour visage of his own.

"We lost \$1.3 million last year," he said. "If this trend continues, we will have to toss in

the towel. But we are hoping to survive and go into our new stadium, the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome next year — a big boy."

"I've heard that Ray Kroc at San Diego also is becoming disenchanted and may pull out," Kroc, the guy who built the Padres on a mountain of Hamburgers.

These recent franchise turnovers and threats of additional ones disturbed Kuhn.

"We can't be assured," he said, "that the replacements will have the same determination to protect baseball's integrity."

Asked point-blank if he anticipated a strike, Kuhn responded, "I can't see a reason for one."

The answer was evasive because the prospects of aborting such a shutdown of America's favorite pastime are grim and there is little the commissioner can do about it. He has no control over the players. They march to the drum of Marvin Miller, executive director of the Players' Association. Legally, there is no way except by leaning on the owners that he can inject his office into what is a labor dispute.

"Compensation at the moment is a very important issue," Kuhn said. "It isn't the only one. We are working on a lot of things that deal with the economic problems of the

Ice-cool Kite flies away with Inverrary Classic

LAUDERHILL, Florida March 9 (AP) — Nicklaus, twice tied for the lead and needing only a par on the final hole to set up a sudden death playoff, 3-putted from the fringe, missing a four-foot second putt that would have tied him for first.

The deeply disappointed Golden Bear, winner of the U.S. Open and PGA last year, played in the group in front of Kite, walked from the green with his shoulders slumped, disgustedly flipped his ball into the gallery and could only stand and watch as Kite made the routine, down-the-middle, on-the-green, 2-putt putt that won it.

Nicklaus finished with a 68 and a 275 total. The distraught Strange, a 4-shot leader when play started in warm, overcast weather, bogeyed his final three holes for a 75 that left him tied for 10th.

Andy Bean, a winner a week ago, and Larry Ziegler were another stroke back at 276. Bean shot a closing 68 and Ziegler matched par 72.

Veteran Charles Coody, who chipped on the final hole, and Johnny Miller were at 278. Coody had a closing 69, Miller 72.

Kite, 4 strokes back at the start of the day, caught the front-running Strange with a birdie on the eighth hole, then dropped back immediately with bogeys on the next two. It was at that point that Nicklaus began a move that seemed destined to take him to the front.

Playing in front of Strange and Kite, he birdied the par-5 11th and holed from about 18 feet on the 12th and suddenly was within striking range.

Strange bogeyed the 12th and Nicklaus was poised. He got a share of the lead with birdies on the 14th and 15th, but Strange also birdied them and remained one in front.

Both Nicklaus and Strange bogeyed the 16th, missing the green and they still were tied. Nicklaus, however, birdied the 17th from 10 feet and, when Strange bogeyed after hitting into two bunkers, Nicklaus had put him away.

But Kite, placidly rolling along on a string of pars, birdied the 16th to get within 1 stroke of Nicklaus.

"I wasn't looking at Kite," Nicklaus said. "I didn't know he was doing anything. It didn't matter, but I didn't know."

And Kite, playing steadily, rolled in a 15-foot birdie putt on the 17th to gain a tie with Nicklaus.

Then Jack, after a beautiful drive, put his approach just over the green, putted back about 4 feet beyond the cup on the 18th and pulled that putt coming back. It was a 3-putt that cost him a share of the lead.

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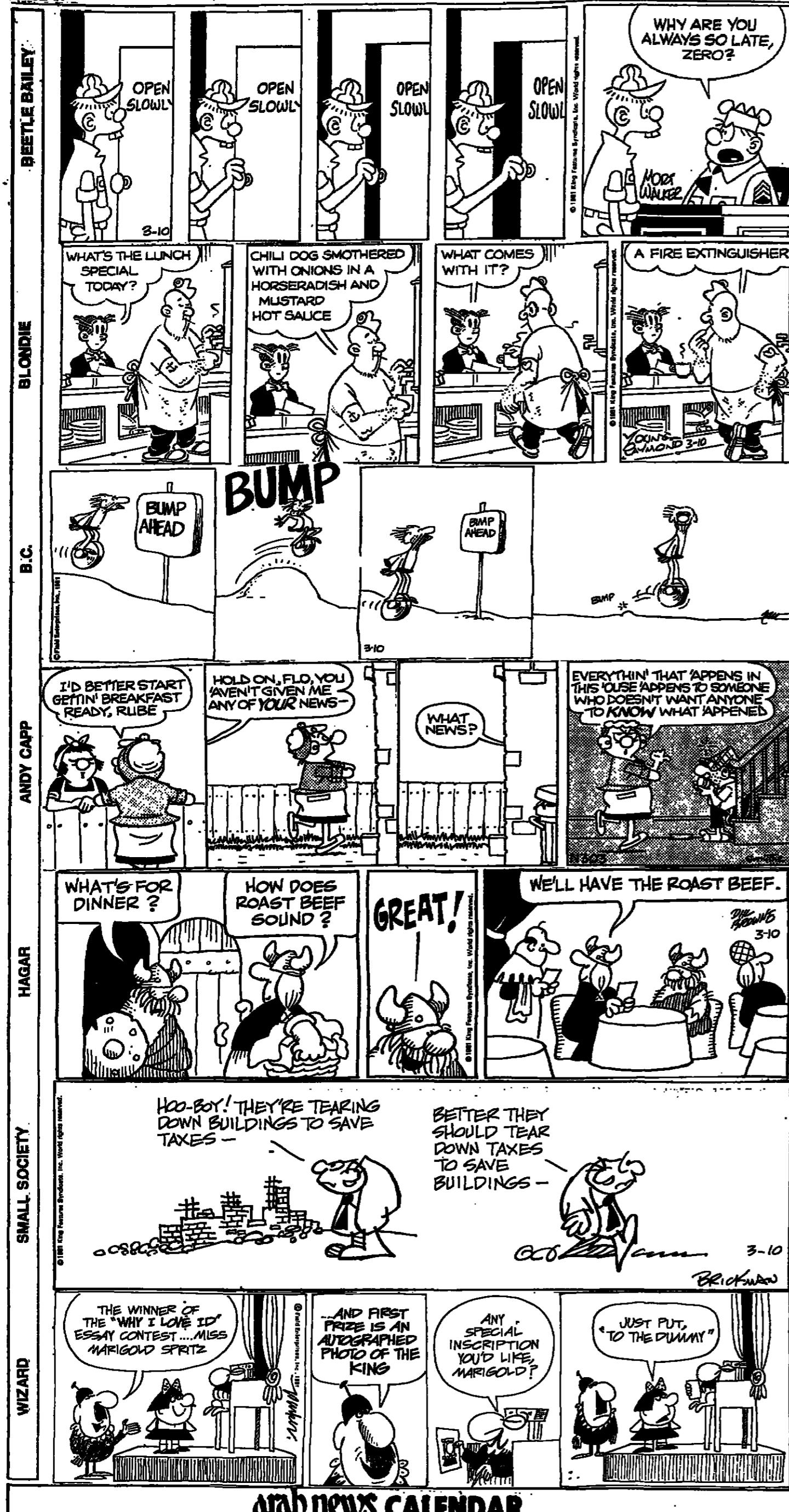
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arab news CALENDAR

Dakar TV Programs (Arabic)

4:30 Children's Show
5:33 All Star Soccer
6:32 Hello, 6:33 The Maner Born
7:29 Adams Chronicles
8:27 Lou Grant
9:15 Quincy

Rabat TV Programs

4:45 Today's programs: 4:50 Children's programs; 6:10 Police Surgeon; 6:40 Health Program; 7:00 Daily Arabic Series; 8:00 Arabic News; 8:15 Wrestling; 9:30 English News; 9:55 Tomorrow's programs: 10:00 Local Program; 10:30 Professionals; 12:00 News.

Casablanca TV Programs

5:45 Quran; 6:00 Current Affairs; 6:30 Animal Secrets; 8:15 My World And Welcome to It; 8:45 Feature; 10:10 Evil Teacher; 10:35 Rockin'

Dakar TV Programs

5:00 Quran; 5:15 Religious Series; 5:30 Cartoons; 6:00 Do Re Mi; 6:30 English Football; 7:30 Religious Series; 8:00 Local News; 8:15 Internews; 9:00 Arabic Drama; 10:00 World News; 10:35 Songs; Program Review; 10:50 Open Program.

Dakar TV Programs

6:00 Quran; 6:15 Current Affairs; 6:30 Photo of the Cooper Watch all night; 7:00 Energy; 7:45 Arabic Series; 8:30 Arabic News; 9:00 TV Magazine; 10:00 English News; 10:20 Local Series; 11:15 Dishes in London.

Oman TV Programs

5:00 Quran; 5:30 Today's Programs; 5:10 Student Programs; 6:15 Cartoons; 6:30 Adult Education; 6:30 Games of Fun; 7:30 Sports Magazine; 9:30 Local Arabic News; 9:30 Songs; Soldiers Diary; 10:00 English News; 10:30 Late News; 11:30 Quran.

Khartoum TV Programs

7:00 Cartoons; 7:30 Big Blue Marble; 8:00 News in English; 8:15 Eight is enough; 9:00 Survival; 9:30 Renditions Et Non; 10:00 English News; 10:30 English Writers.

Other TV Programs

5:00 Quran; 5:30 Open Sesame; 6:45 What the Papers Say; 7:00 Energy; 7:45 Arabic Series; 8:30 Arabic News; 9:00 TV Magazine; 10:00 English News; 10:20 Local Series; 11:15 Dishes in London.

Tunis TV Programs

5:00 Quran; 5:30 Today's Programs; 5:10 Student Programs; 6:15 Cartoons; 6:30 Adult Education; 6:30 Games of Fun; 7:30 Sports Magazine; 9:30 Local Arabic News; 9:30 Songs; Soldiers Diary; 10:00 English News; 10:30 Late News; 11:30 Quran.

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Al-Shata Street
Al-Aws Street

Al-Sharia, King's Street

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Al-Adams Street

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The School Street

Bajarsi, the Main Street

Raha, Eidul-Hazz's Building

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Tuesday

Afternoon Transmission

Tuesday

2:00 Open

2:01 Holy Quran

Program Rev.

Gems of Guidance

2:13 Quran

2:15 Quran

2:25 Selections of Music

2:35 Light Music

3:00 The Evening Show

3:45 Islam & Solidarity

Islam A Colorful Tapestry

9:30 World of Guitar

9:45 S. Chronicle

10:15 Round & About

10:45 Today's Short Story

11:00 In The Quiet

11:30 Late Music

12:45 A Performance With Drama

12:45 Closer

SECTION FRANCAISE D'EDOUARD

Tuesday

Afternoon Transmission

Tuesday

2:00 Open

2:01 Holy Quran

Program Rev.

Gems of Guidance

2:13 Quran

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11:00 In The Quiet

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12:45 Closer

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— Onde Course : 11:30 Megakarts dans la baie des 22m.

— Onde Course : 14:30 Megakarts dans la baie des 22m.

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8:00 Ouverture

8:01 Ventes Et Commentaire

8:11 Magique Classique

8:21 Magique Variete

8:29 Variete

8:30 Magazine Feminin

8:45 Orient Et Occident

8:55 Program Review

9:00 Informations

9:10 Livre sur les Informations

9:15 Variete

9:20 Variete

9:30 Variete

9:45 Variete

9:55 Cloture

10:00 Opening

10:15 Day Out

10:30 Program Review

10:45 Gems of Guidance

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SECTION FRANCAISE D'EDOUARD

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Weinberger says

Salvador arms flow from Cuba reduced

WASHINGTON, March 9 (Agencies) — U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has said that shipments of arms from the Soviet bloc through Cuba to leftist rebels in El Salvador had slowed down. But the weapons traffic was still "something we take very seriously" he said in a television interview.

The Reagan administration has said that the arms are being supplied by Communist nations to help the insurgents overthrow El Salvador's ruling junta. It has sent more than 50 military advisers to assist the Salvadoran government as part of \$25 million aid program. Weinberger said the American advisers were under careful instructions to remain in areas where they were least likely to be endangered. Every precaution had been taken to ensure they served only in a training capacity, he added.

U.S. budget may cut spending

WASHINGTON, March 9 (R) — President Ronald Reagan will propose the first budget of his presidency Tuesday calling on Congress to enact unprecedented tax and spending cuts aimed at pumping new life into the U.S. economy.

The general outlines of the budget for the 1982 financial year, which begins Oct. 1, are already known. Even before taking office two months ago, Reagan and his advisers began releasing bit by bit the details of their novel plan to stimulate economic growth and curb inflation by reducing the influence of government.

The president has already asked Congress for the largest tax cut package in U.S. history — to reduce income taxes by 10 per cent a year for the next three years. The administration has also indicated that it expects Congress to trim the financial 1982 budget by some \$45 billion to about \$695 billion.

Like the tax cuts, the proposed spending reductions are unprecedented in size, and come in virtually every area except defense, which will be increased considerably.

In news conferences and televised addresses to the nation, Reagan has argued that failure to enact his program will lead the United States into the worst economic calamity since the great depression of the 1930's.

Public opinion polls have indicated that the American people are solidly behind the president, but there have been signs that Congress will not automatically rubber-stamp his proposals. Democratic leaders have called his planned tax cut a gift to the wealthy. Representatives from both parties have found fault with spending cuts in those programs which they endorse.

At the same time, many leading private economists are skeptical about whether the Reagan plan can achieve all its lofty economic targets. Nevertheless, the president and his cabinet are confident they can reach their stated objectives. They frequently justify their austere proposals by referring to Reagan's landslide victory over former President Carter as a mandate for change from the American people.

Asked about a Soviet diplomat's statement last week that the reports of arms shipments were "James Bond fiction," Weinberger replied: "In this case, fact may be stranger than James Bond fiction." The facts had shown incontrovertibly that Moscow was involved in arms deliveries to El Salvador, he added.

In another television interview, the minister counselor at the Soviet Embassy in Washington, Vladilen Vasev, denied that the Soviet Union was financing arms shipments to guerrillas in El Salvador. "It is a groundless charge... There are no Soviet arms introduced into El Salvador. There is no complicity of the Soviet Union in fomenting a Salvadoran revolution" he said.

"El Salvador is not a problem of Soviet-American relations," Vasev said, adding that Moscow was not in favor of "the export of revolution." Asked how the Soviet Union would react if the United States blockaded Cuba, Vasev replied: "That would be trying to take unlawful action against a country friendly to the Soviet Union. We will stand by the Cubans."

Secretary of State Alexander Haig was quoted by Time magazine as saying that the Soviet Union and Cuba had a strategy to create Marxist-Leninist regimes in central America — Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras in the first phase.

The problem was whether the American people and those who shared their values would continue to turn their backs on such illegal interventions, or insist that the future of El Salvador should be decided by the people of that country, he said. President Reagan and his cabinet, the executive branch of the U.S. government, have had encouraging support from the leadership of both houses of Congress, he added.

Meanwhile the Chinese magazine Peking Review said Monday that — China . . . has not provided any weapons to the guerrillas in El Salvador, but Cuba has turned over some old Chinese arms to them. The official English-language magazine said China had given Cuba some small arms for self-defense in the early 1960s.

"Cuba, which has ulterior motives, has sent them to the guerrillas of El Salvador. Under the guise of supporting the national liberation movement, the Soviet Union is interfering through Cuba in the political affairs of El Salvador and contending with the United States for hegemony, thus making the situation in that country more complicated than ever," the magazine added.

Train crash

45 tourists die in Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, March 9 (AP) — At least 45 persons were killed and 120 injured when a train bringing tourists back from a weekend at the Argentine seashore collided early Sunday with two derailed freight cars, police said. They said police officers and firemen were working to rescue victims still trapped in the wreckage.

The passenger train was en route from the resort city of Mar Del Plata, south of here, to Buenos Aires when the accident occurred at Coronel Brandsen city, 97 kms south of this capital.

The train was carrying 800 passengers, mostly tourists, officials said. Police said five cars of the passenger train jumped the tracks

after striking the derailed freight cars from a previous train.

It was the country's worst rail disaster in three years. The freight train's conductor, knowing the passenger train was soon due to pass on the obstructed tracks, grabbed a flashlight and ran desperately through the night to give warning, police said, but the alert was too late.

The 13-car passenger train — the "Lucernaga," or lightning bug — smashed into the tank cars while braking, sending the engine and five cars off the track. Most of the casualties were in the telescoped wreckage of the first three cars.

"I was sleeping and when I woke up everything was coming down on me," said one of the passengers. "I thought it was a dream, but then I heard shouts and realized it was all over. I started screaming and a guy pulled me out through the window."

"The first thing I did was cover my children with my body," said a mother who was traveling with her daughter and two sons. "I saw that Marcela was crying but I couldn't hear her because the sound of the crash was deafening. We were trapped between two seats that were knocked out of place. It was still before sunrise, so I could barely see the piles of bodies around before sunrise, so I would barely see the piles of bodies around me."

The dead included five passengers who had been put off at an earlier station for raiding without tickets on the roof, but had managed to sneak aboard again.

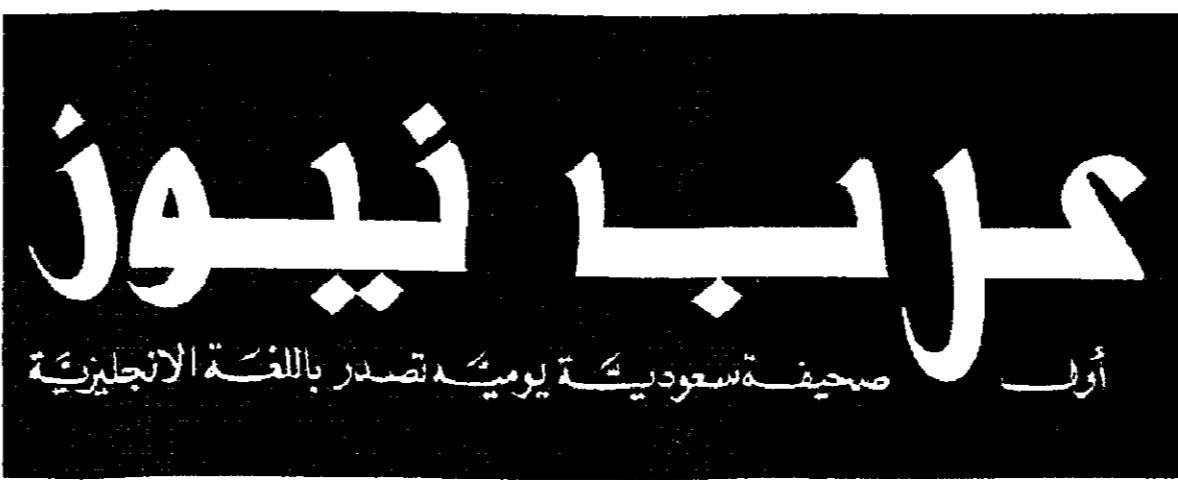
Dollar, gold rise

LONDON, March 9 (AP) — The dollar increased slightly in quiet European trading Monday. Gold prices rose.

The dollar gained against the British pound, however, ahead of Tuesday's budget to be delivered by Chancellor of the Exchequer Sir Geoffrey Howe. The pound weakened to \$2.1880, from \$2.1930 late Friday. Howe's budget is expected to include a sizeable reduction in the Bank of England's minimum lending rate.

In Tokyo, the dollar fell nearly two yen in heavy trading, closing at 207.35 yen, down from 209.25 Friday. In later European trading, the dollar was quoted at 207.43 yen.

London's five bullion houses fixed a recommended morning gold price of \$473.25, a troy ounce, up from \$470.75 late Friday. In Zurich the metal traded for \$473.50, up from \$464.50. In Hong Kong, rose \$4.19 to close at \$475.09. In New York Friday gold finished at \$466.

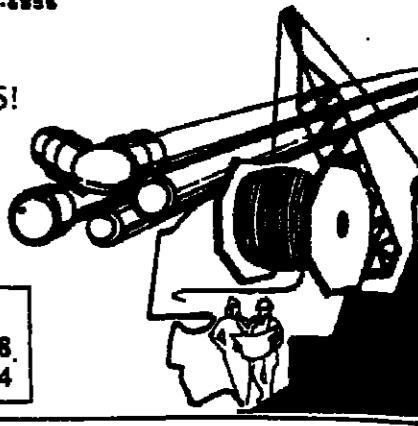


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(Wirephoto)
PEASANTS GATHERING: Salvador's Junta member Jose Antonio Morales Ehrlich addresses a large gathering of peasants at Hacienda San Isidro Sunday on the first anniversary of agrarian reform in El Salvador. Ehrlich is also administrator of the land reform movement.

Kampuchean front talks begin in N. Korea today

PYONGYANG, March 9 (AFP) — Former Kampuchean leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk will begin talks here Tuesday with visiting Khmer Rouge leader Khiem Samphan on the formation of an anti-Vietnamese front in Kampuchea. The prince, who has agreed to become the chief of the front and head of state, will meet Khiem in a palace here which North Korean President Kim Il-Sung has put at their disposition.

Khiem arrived here Monday from Peking with one of his cabinet ministers, Keat Chhion, and the Khmer Rouge UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) representative Ok Sakkun.

The prince has laid down a number of conditions for entering into an alliance with the Khmer Rouge — his former enemies. In exchange for his agreement to become head

of state of Democratic Kampuchea and head of the united front, he is asking for military aid from China and the United States for the creation of a "Sihanoukist" army independent of the Khmer Rouge. He is also demanding an agreement from the Khmer Rouge and China for Kampuchea to be neutralized after a future troop pullout from the country, and for the country to be placed under United Nations trusteeship.

The Vietnamese army ousted the Khmer Rouge regime from Phnom Penh in January 1979, replacing it with a pro-Vietnamese regime defended by about 200,000 Hanoi troops. With some 30,000 men, the Khmer Rouges constitute the main resistance force battling Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea. The meeting between Sihanouk and Khiem will be their first since January 1979.

A former Khmer republic premier, in Tam and a former minister of Sihanouk, Nhieb Tioulong, will also take part in the talks. The Khmer republic regime came to power following the 1970 coup in which the prince was overthrown. It in turn was overthrown in 1975 by the Khmer Rouge.

The refugees say also that Uganda's Madi

America decides to stall negotiations on sea law

UNITED NATIONS, March 9 (AP) — The Ronald Reagan presidential administration, seeking better terms for American companies that want to mine the mineral riches of the seas, has decided to stall what was to have been the final round of U.N. sea law negotiations opened here Monday.

But as one diplomat here puts it, the administration's decision has made the developing countries "mad as hell." Some 163 nations were invited to the 10th session of the law of the sea conference, which is expected to run through April 17 or 24.

But instead of getting an international treaty ready for signing this fall, the diplomats will face a U.S. effort to reopen the most controversial section of the proposed accord to renegotiation. American officials now predict a final agreement probably will not be completed much before 1985.

"We want to improve assured access for private industry to mine the deep seabed," said a U.S. official who asked not to be identified. Less than a week before the scheduled start of the conference, the State Department revealed that Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr., ordered the U.S. negotiating team "to seek to insure that negotiations do not end at the present session of the conference pending a policy review by the United States Government."

A spokesman cited "serious problems" with the deep seabed mining provisions of the comprehensive treaty, which has 320 articles, eight annexes and a preamble.

Only last August, after an apparent breakthrough in the previous session in Geneva, former U.S. chief negotiator Elliott L. Richardson said it was "all but certain" the treaty would be completed in New York and be ready for signing by most of the world's nations this fall in Caracas, Venezuela. The Reagan victory last November changed all that.

Reflecting deep concern by private U.S. mining interests, a plank in the Republican Party platform said the sea law negotiations had "served to inhibit United States exploitation of the seabed for its abundant mineral resources. Too much concern has been lavished on nations unable to carry out sea

tribesmen, members of which still t Amin, are being blamed by Obote's force the outspoken former dictator's policies. These refugees say they don't know if tribesmen are linked to or make up Uganda freedom movement. But they say Obote's forces have waged a savage campaign against Madi-villagers suspected of ality to Amin.

The result of the Ugandan unrest has that an average of 300 refugees per arrive in this small town on the white River.

Northern Territory Chief Minister F Everingham said in Canberra Monday Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser had told officially the B-52s would be coming to Darwin. In a television interview, he said expected the B-52s, based on the Pacific island of Guam, initially to stage thru Darwin once or twice a month.

Everingham said he was not concerned aircraft might carry nuclear weapons on their missions through Darwin. "They be coming and I accept that because I believe that we must involve the Americans in defense of Australia as much as we can.

The refugees say also that Uganda's Madi

Uganda tribesmen flee into Sudan

tribesmen, members of which still t Amin, are being blamed by Obote's force the outspoken former dictator's policies. These refugees say they don't know if tribesmen are linked to or make up Uganda freedom movement. But they say Obote's forces have waged a savage campaign against Madi-villagers suspected of ality to Amin.

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should you be interested in renting, you are invited to be present at the Building situated on the Airport Road cross-section with the University Street (West Meridian Hotel) Jeddah at 4:00 P.M. on the scheduled date mentioned above, bringing with you an advance payment of not less than SR 20,000 (Twenty Thousand Saudi Riyals) by a certified check (cash or ordinary check not acceptable). The building will be opened early in the morning for further visits or inquiries.

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